

# JOHN THOMPSON'S

## *Easiest Piano Course*

PART ONE



WMCo. 7259

G. T. HAUMAN

PRICE \$1.95  
U.S.A.

*The Willis Music Co. Cincinnati, Ohio*



# THE PIANO KEYBOARD

There are WHITE KEYS and BLACK KEYS on the Piano Keyboard.

The WHITE KEYS are named



Recite the letters of the Musical Alphabet several times.

---

The BLACK KEYS are grouped in TWOS and THREES.

Touch all the groups of TWO BLACK KEYS on your piano.

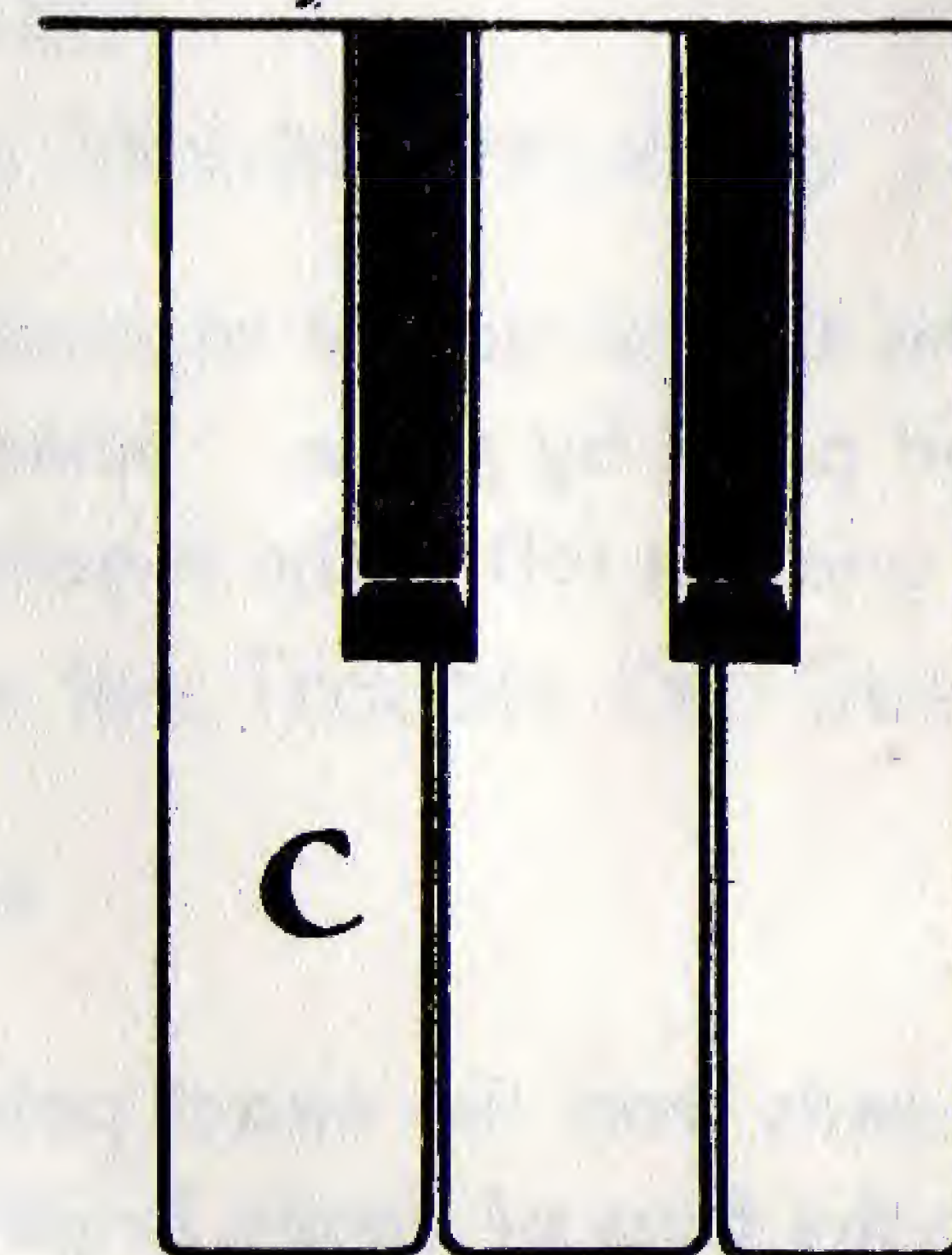
---

C is found to the left of the TWO BLACK KEYS.

Letter all the C's you can find on the Keyboard Chart, next page.

Now, on your piano, PLAY all the C's you can find—using the thumb.

THIS IS HOW TO FIND  
C ON YOUR PIANO

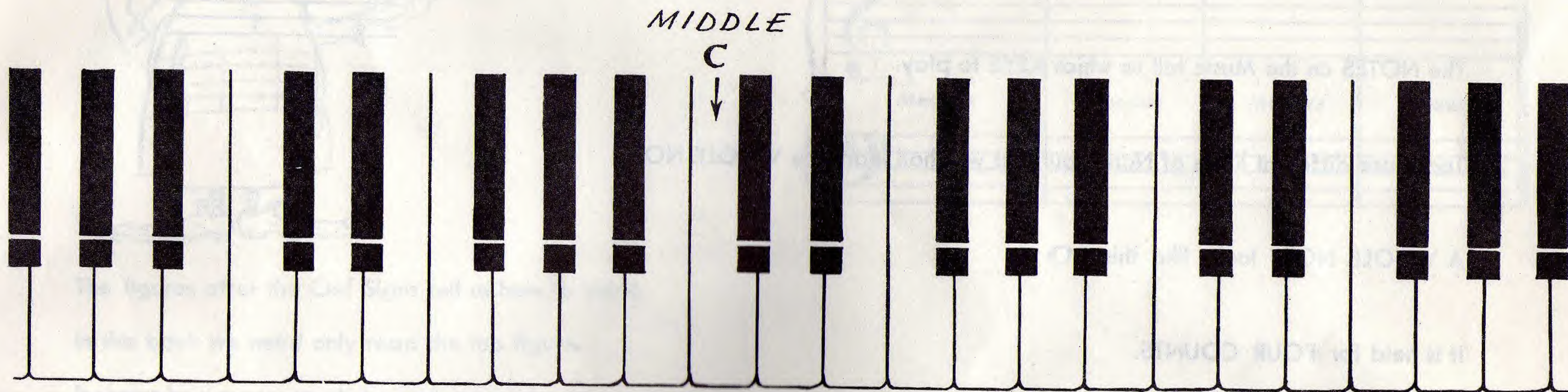




# KEYBOARD CHART

5

(A section of the Keyboard)



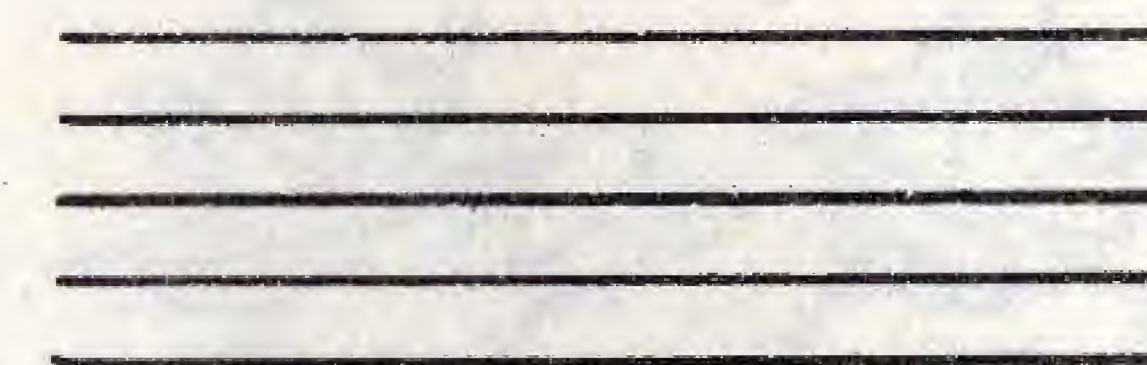
THIS IS A PICTURE OF PART OF  
YOUR KEYBOARD - AS YOU  
LEARN THE NAME OF EACH NEW  
KEY, TURN BACK TO THIS PAGE  
AND MARK **ALL** THE KEYS HAVING  
THE SAME NAME.



# MIDDLE C ON THE MUSIC


Music is written on the LINES and SPACES of the STAFF.

The Staff



The NOTES on the Music tell us which KEYS to play.

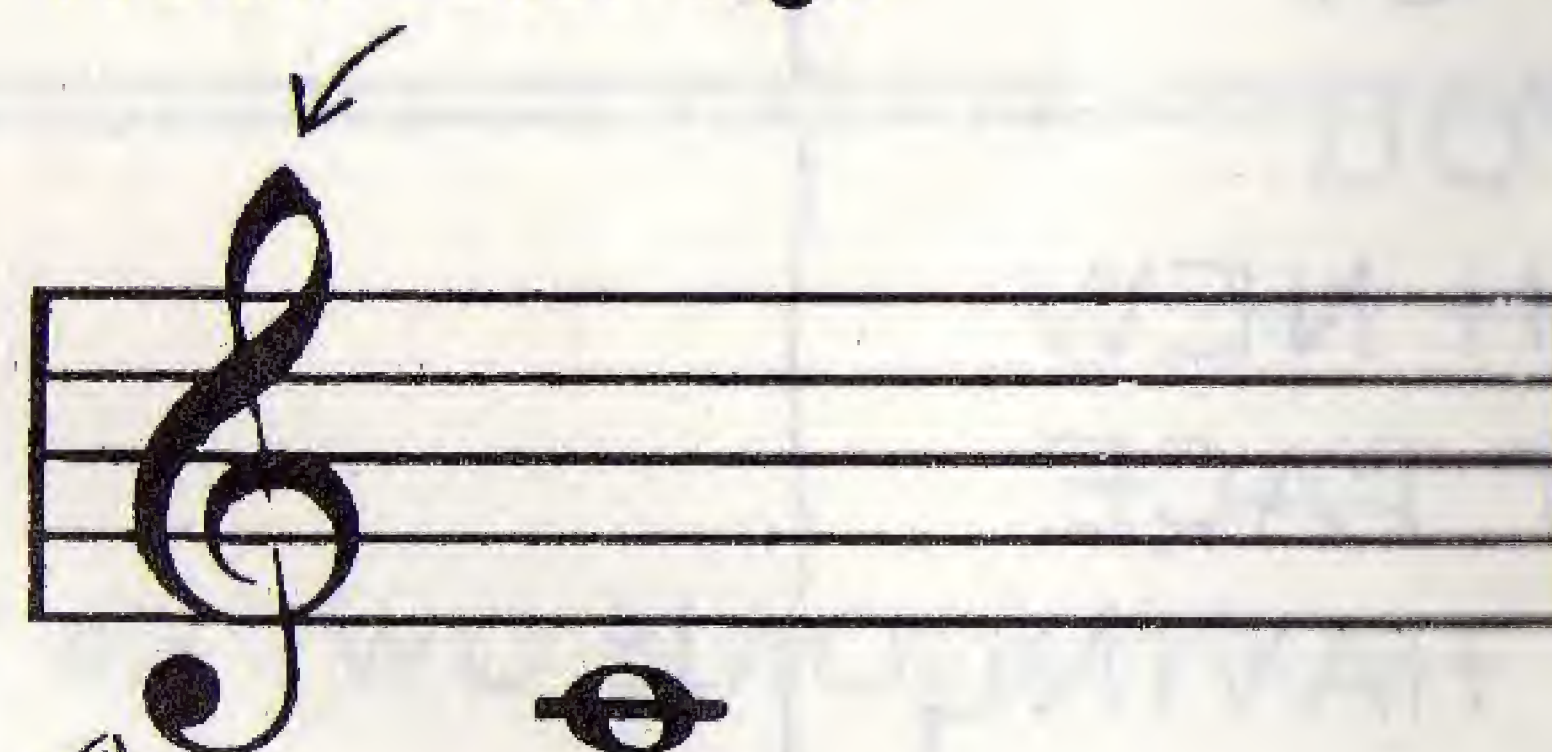
There are different kinds of Notes, but first we shall learn the WHOLE NOTE.

A WHOLE NOTE looks like this, 

It is held for FOUR COUNTS.

## Clef Signs

Treble Clef sign



This is how MIDDLE C looks in the Treble.

It is written as a WHOLE NOTE and gets *four counts*.

It is played by the RIGHT HAND thumb.

Play it and count FOUR.

Bass Clef sign

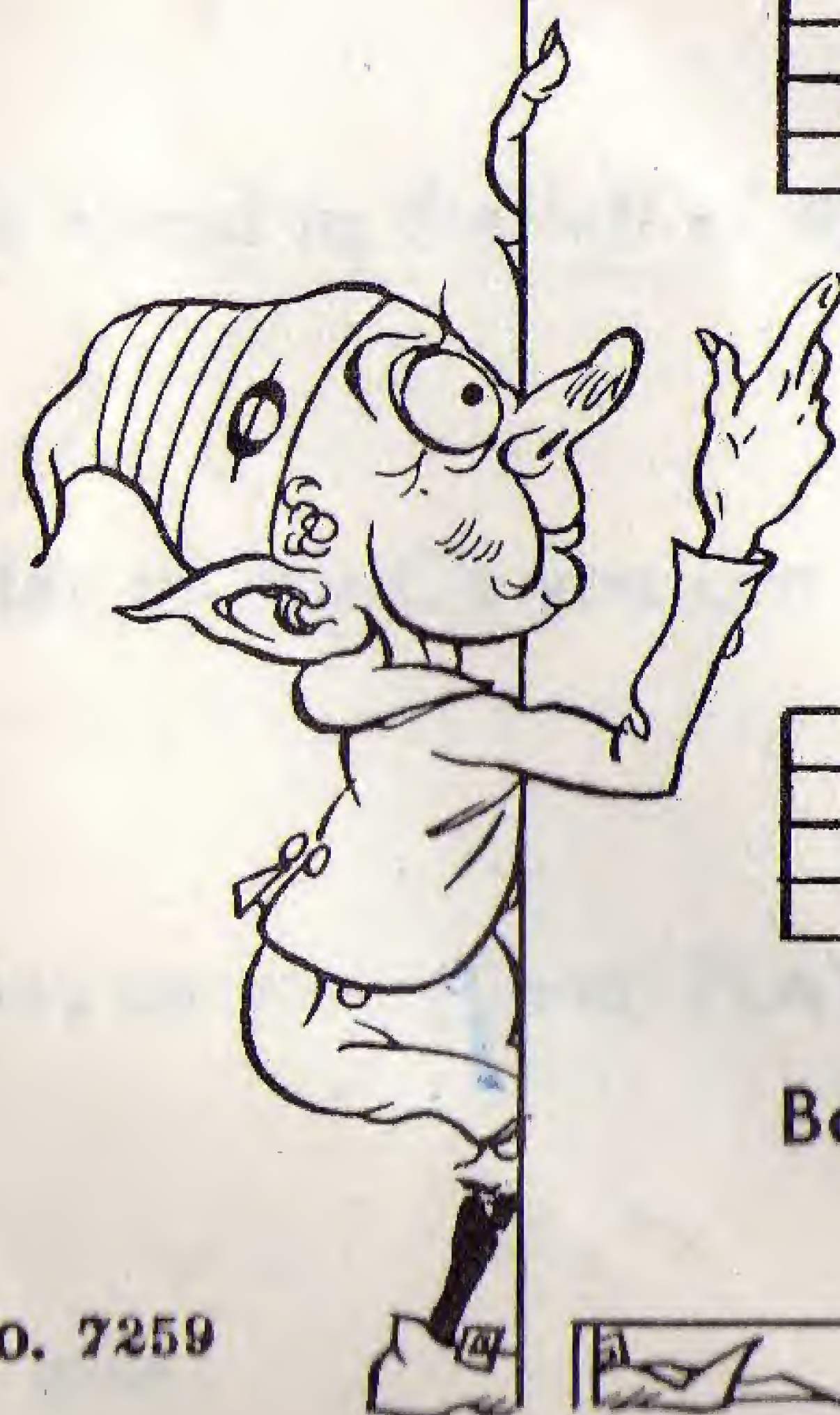


This is how MIDDLE C looks in the Bass.

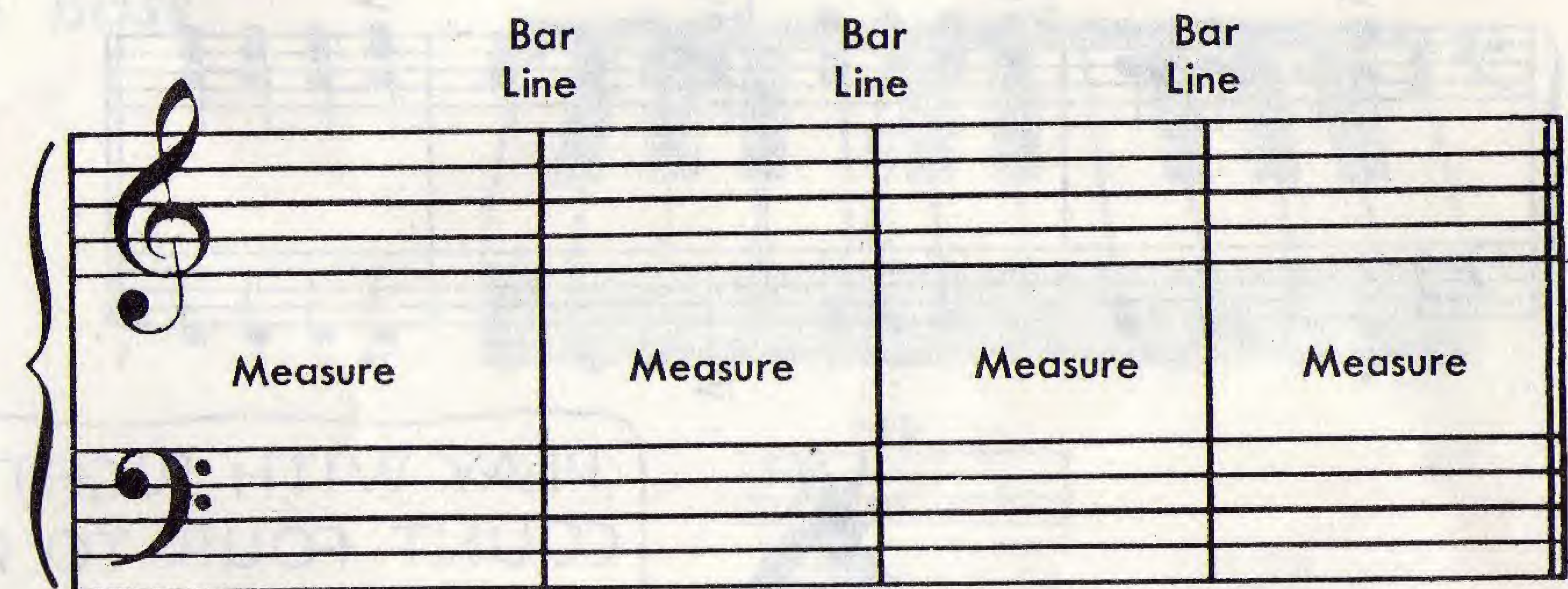
Written as a WHOLE NOTE, it gets *four counts*.

It is played by the LEFT HAND thumb.

Play it and count FOUR.





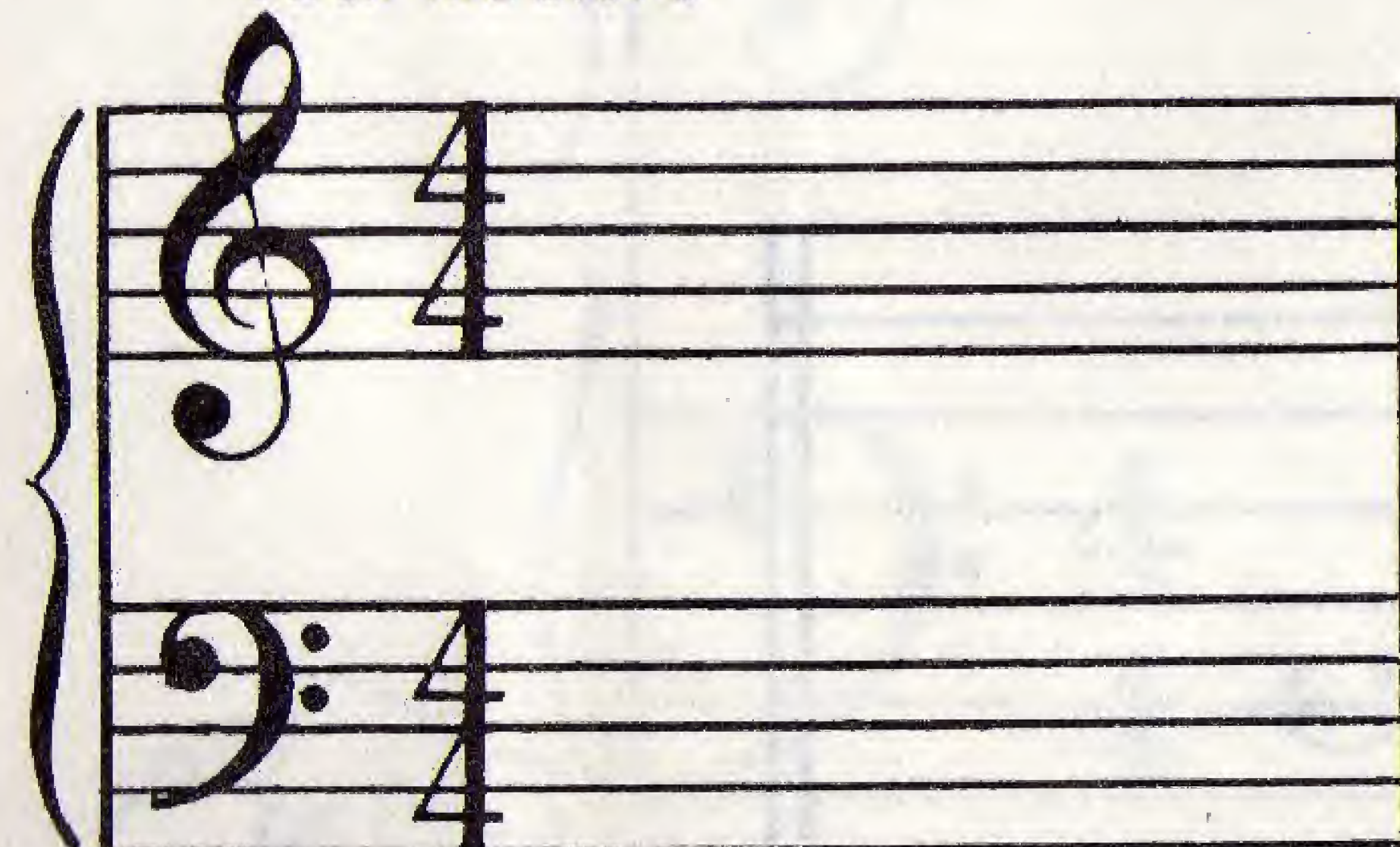


The figures after the Clef Signs tell us how to count.

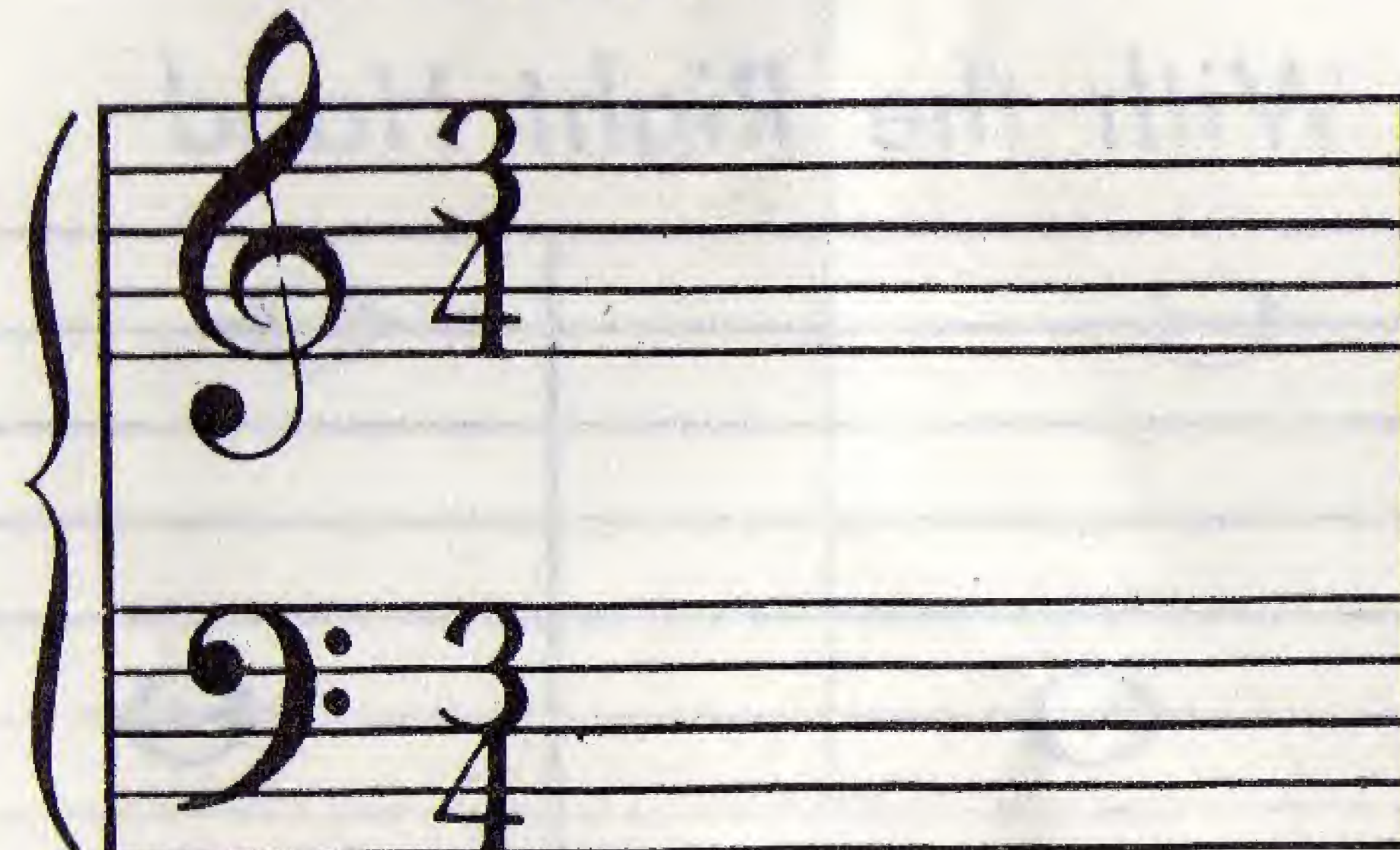
In this book we need only read the *top* figure.

It shows how many counts to each measure.

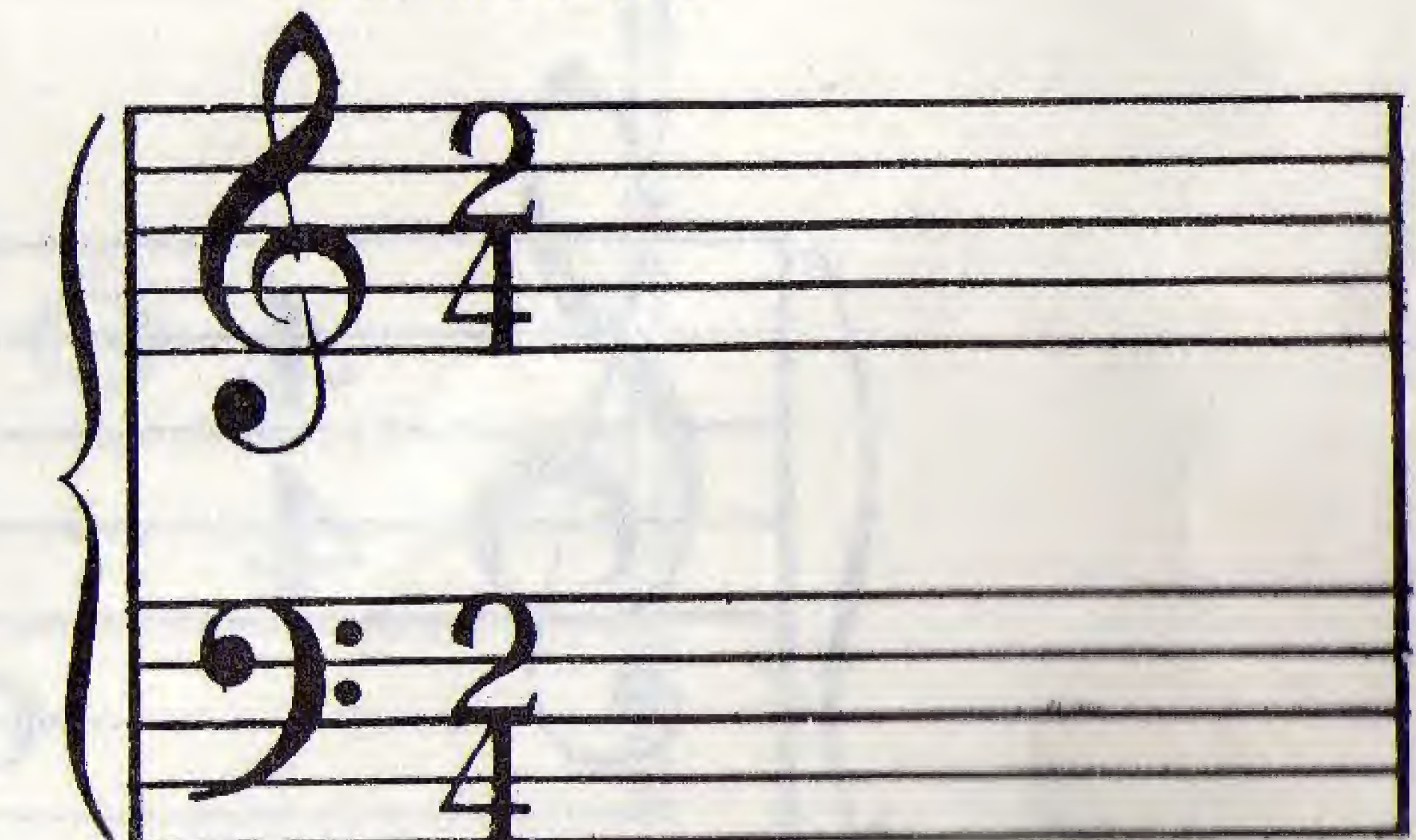
Count 4 to  
each measure



Count 3 to  
each measure

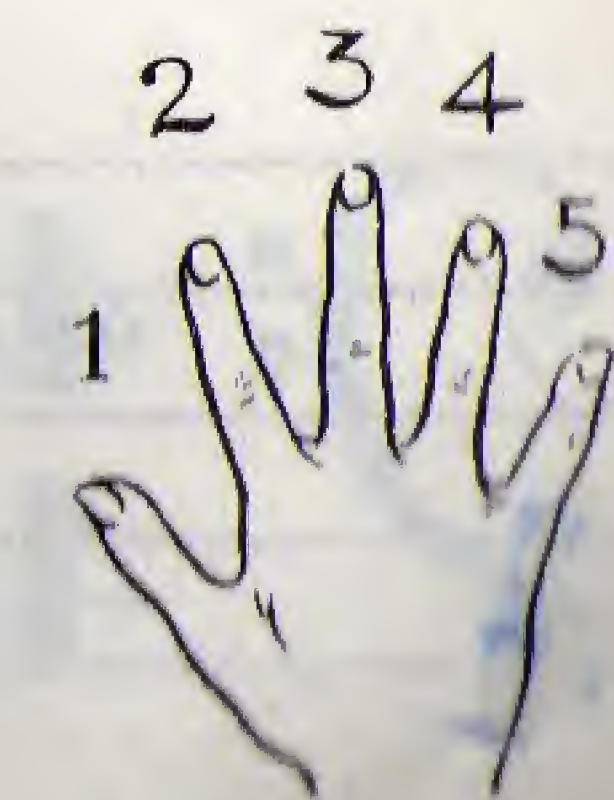


Count 2 to  
each measure



Left Hand

Each finger has a number. The thumbs are number 1.



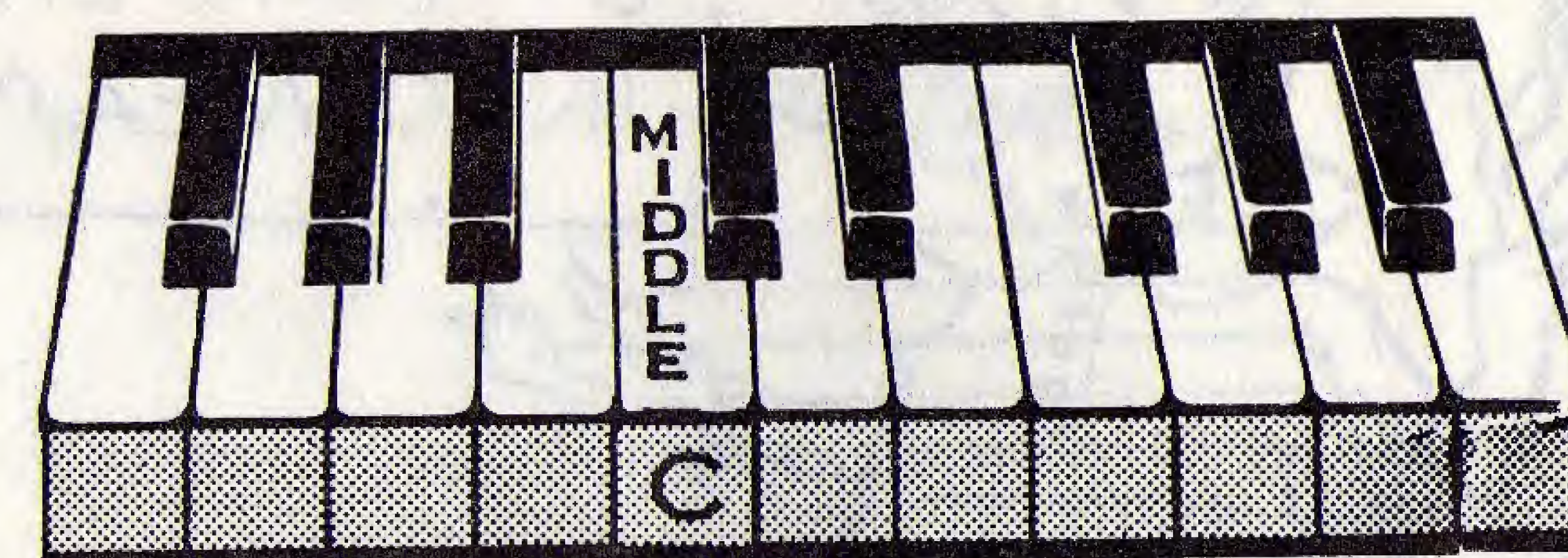
Right Hand



# Middle C as a Whole Note

*In the Treble*

**Accompaniment**

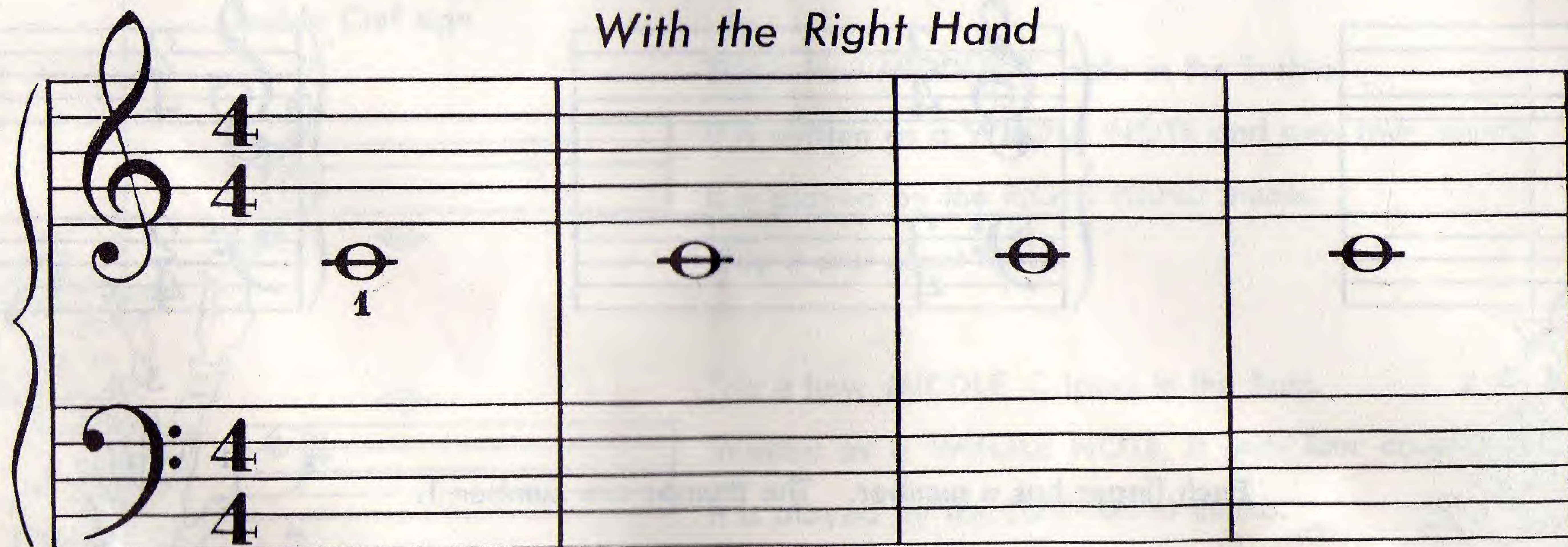


PLAY WITH RIGHT HAND THUMB  
COUNT FOUR TO EACH NOTE



## Let's Play

*With the Right Hand*

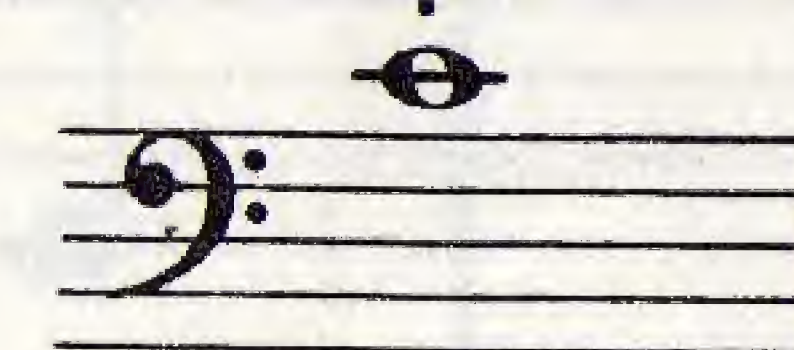
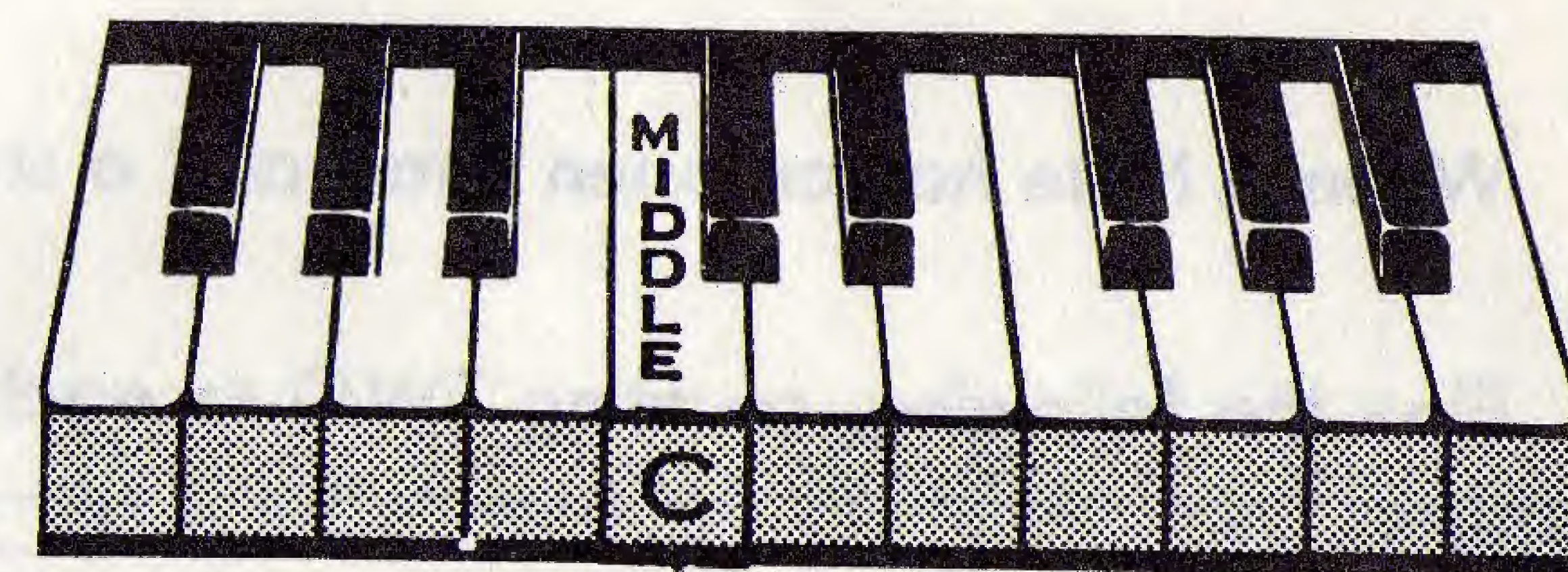




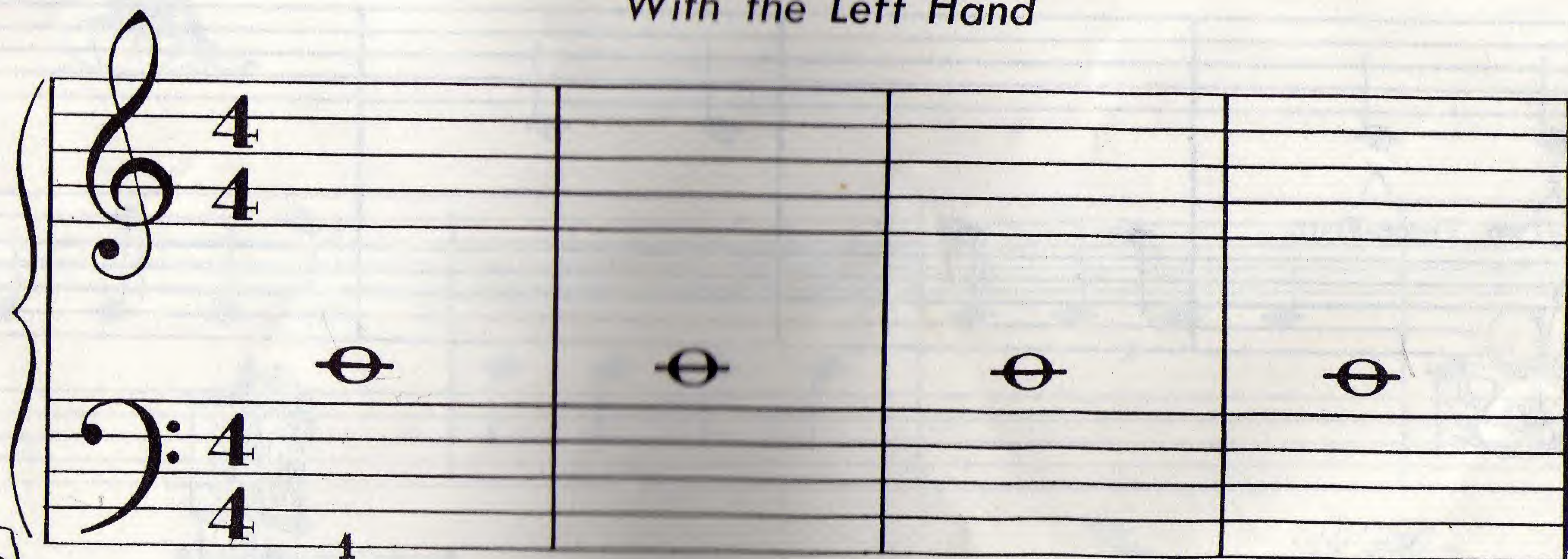
# Middle C as a Whole Note

*In the Bass*

## Accompaniment



Let's Play  
*With the Left Hand*



PLAY WITH  
LEFT HAND THUMB,  
COUNT FOUR  
TO EACH NOTE



# Middle C in Half Notes

When a Note has an open head and a stem, like this, (  or  ) it is called a HALF NOTE and gets two counts.

Play the following, counting TWO to each note—"ONE, TWO" to the first note and "THREE, FOUR" to the second note of each measure.



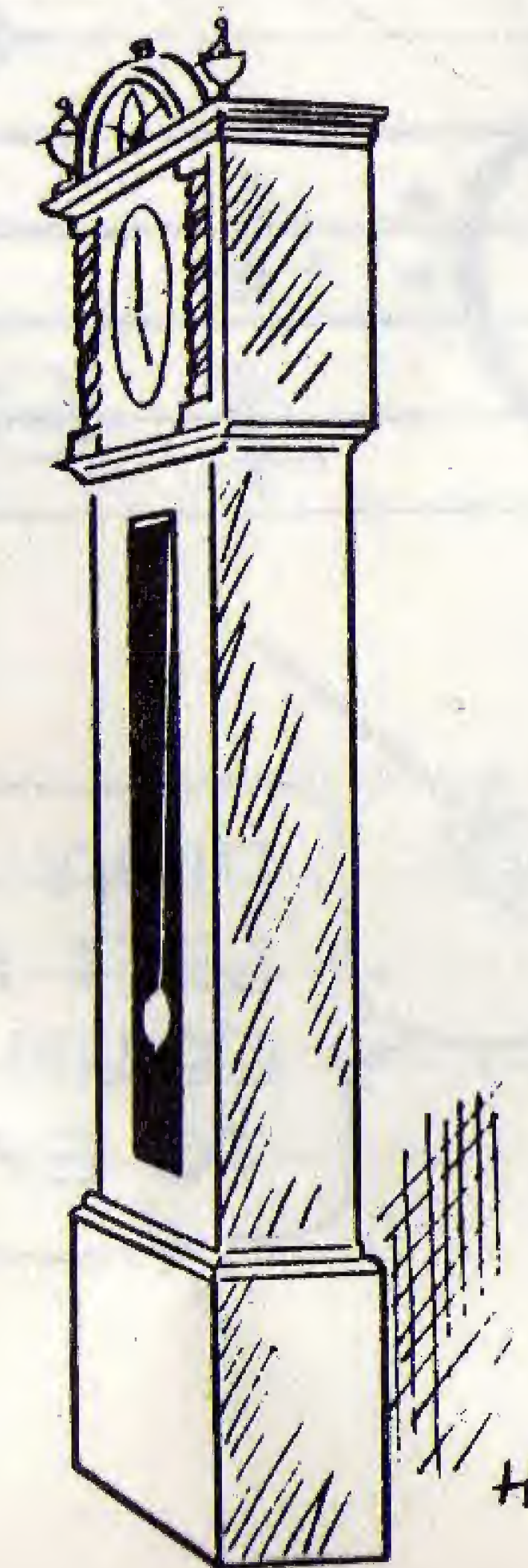
## Grandfather's Clock

Count: One-Two Three-Four

### Accompaniment

*stacc.*



2 1





# Middle C in Quarter Notes

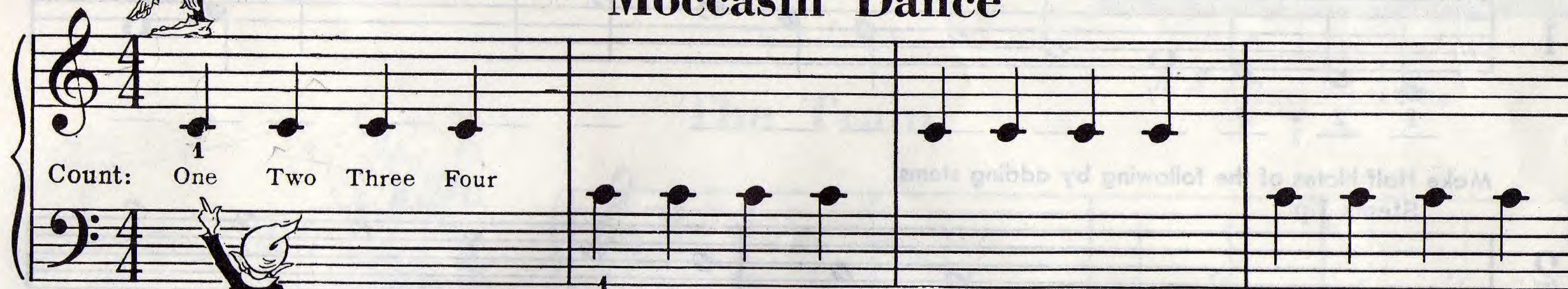
11

A QUARTER NOTE looks like this (  or  ) and gets one count.

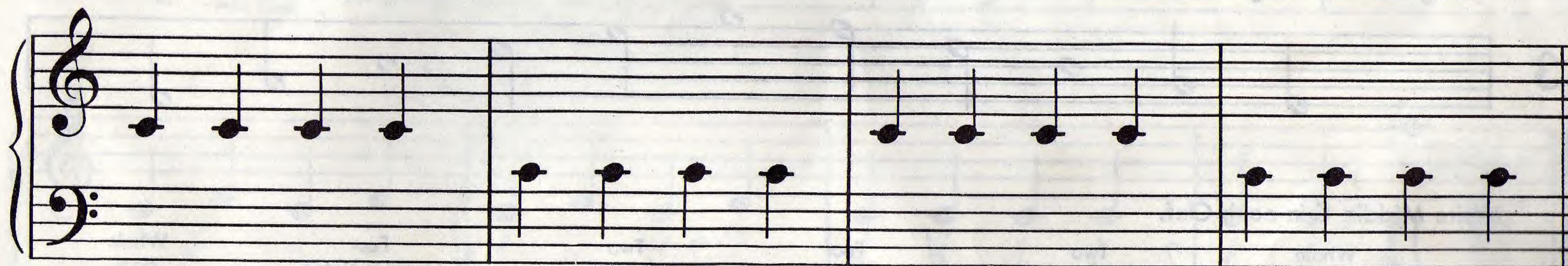
FOUR COUNTS  
TO EACH  
MEASURE



## Moccasin Dance



Count: One Two Three Four

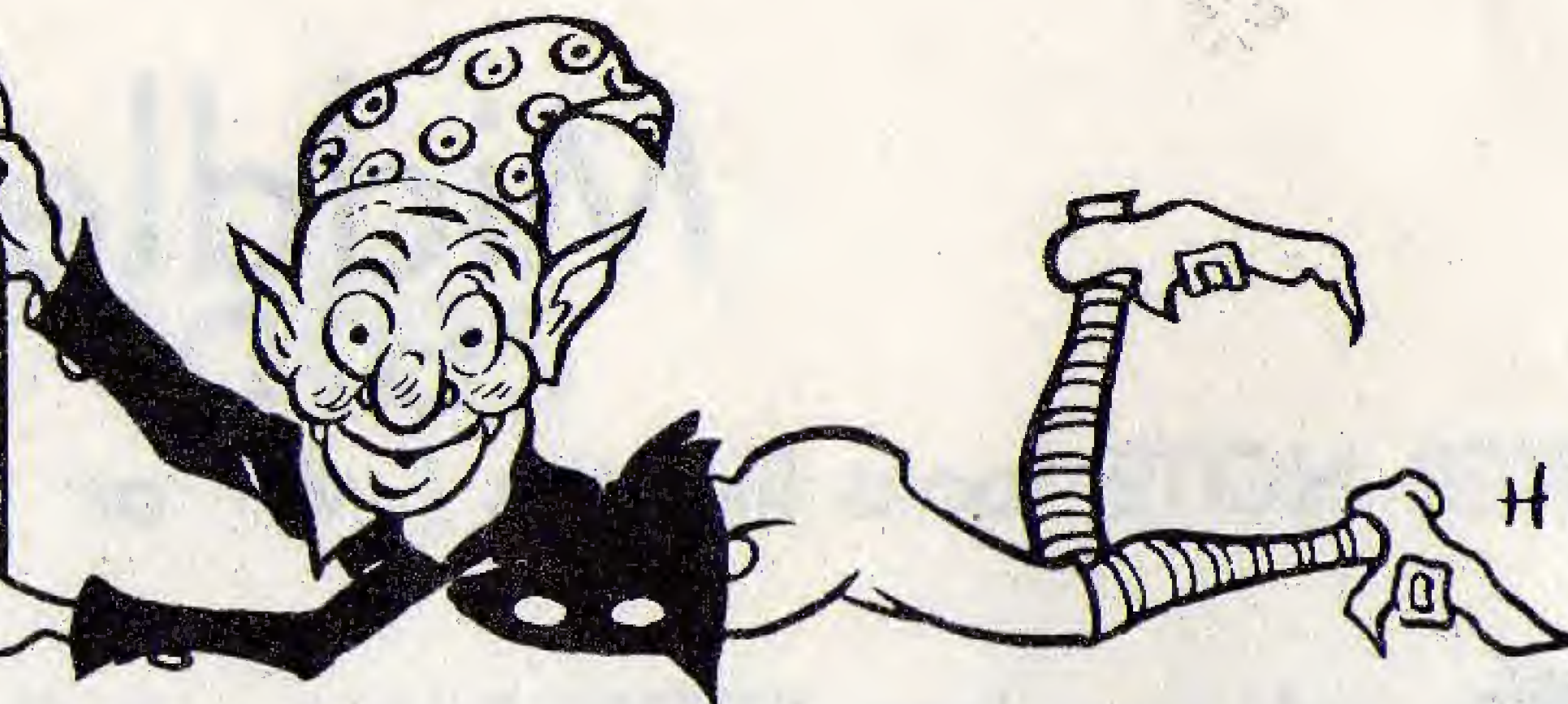


### Accompaniment





# WORK SHEET



Mark the Time Values of the following notes, using 1 for Quarter Notes, 2 for Half Notes and 4 for Whole Notes.

1

1 2 1 2

Make Half Notes of the following by adding stems.

Stems Up

2

Stems Down

Change the following into Quarter Notes by filling in the heads and adding stems when necessary.

3

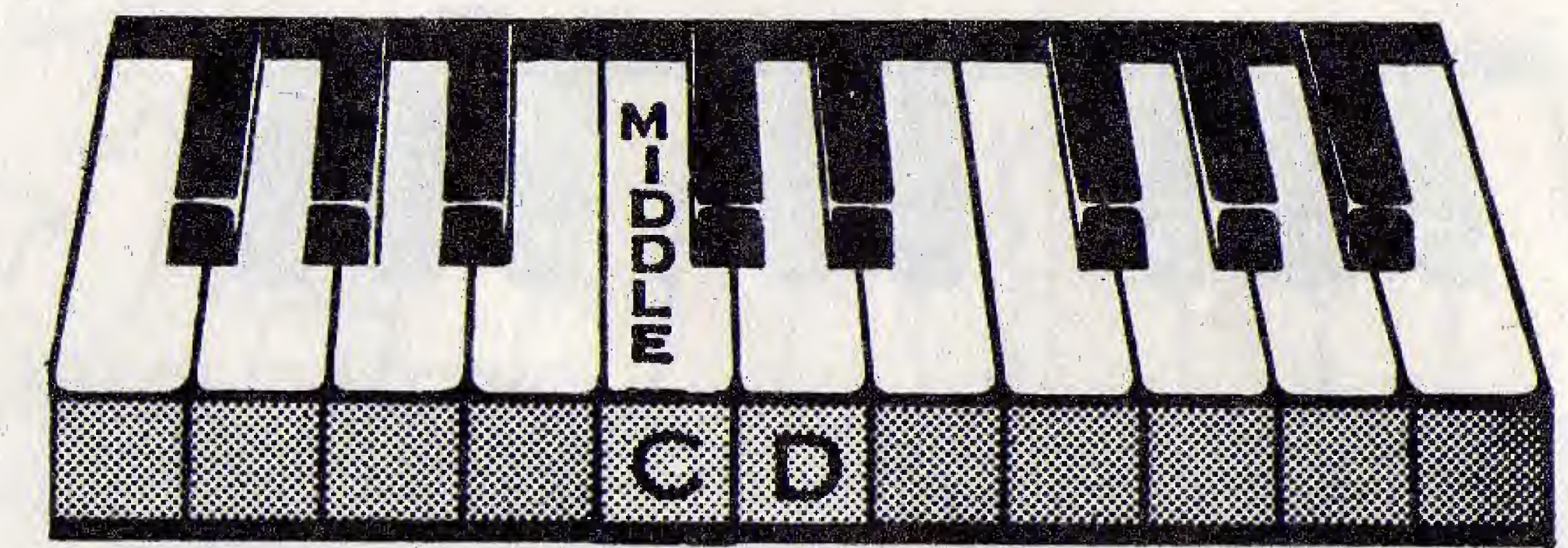
Write Middle C in each Clef.

4

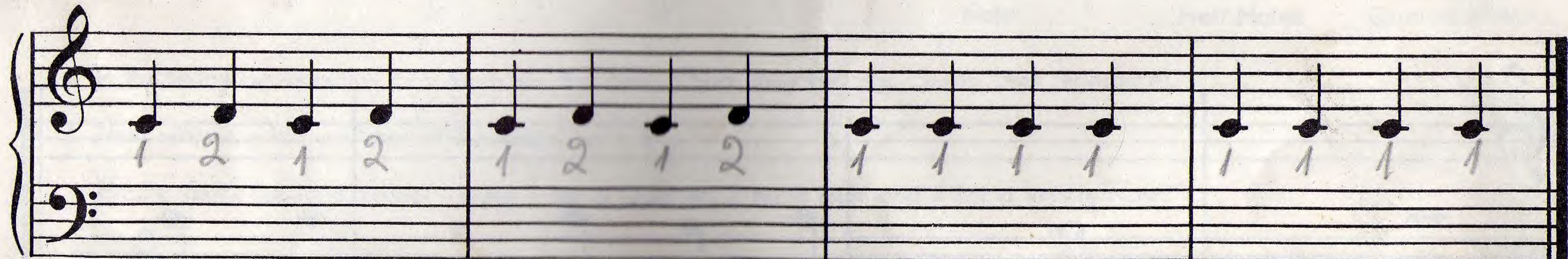
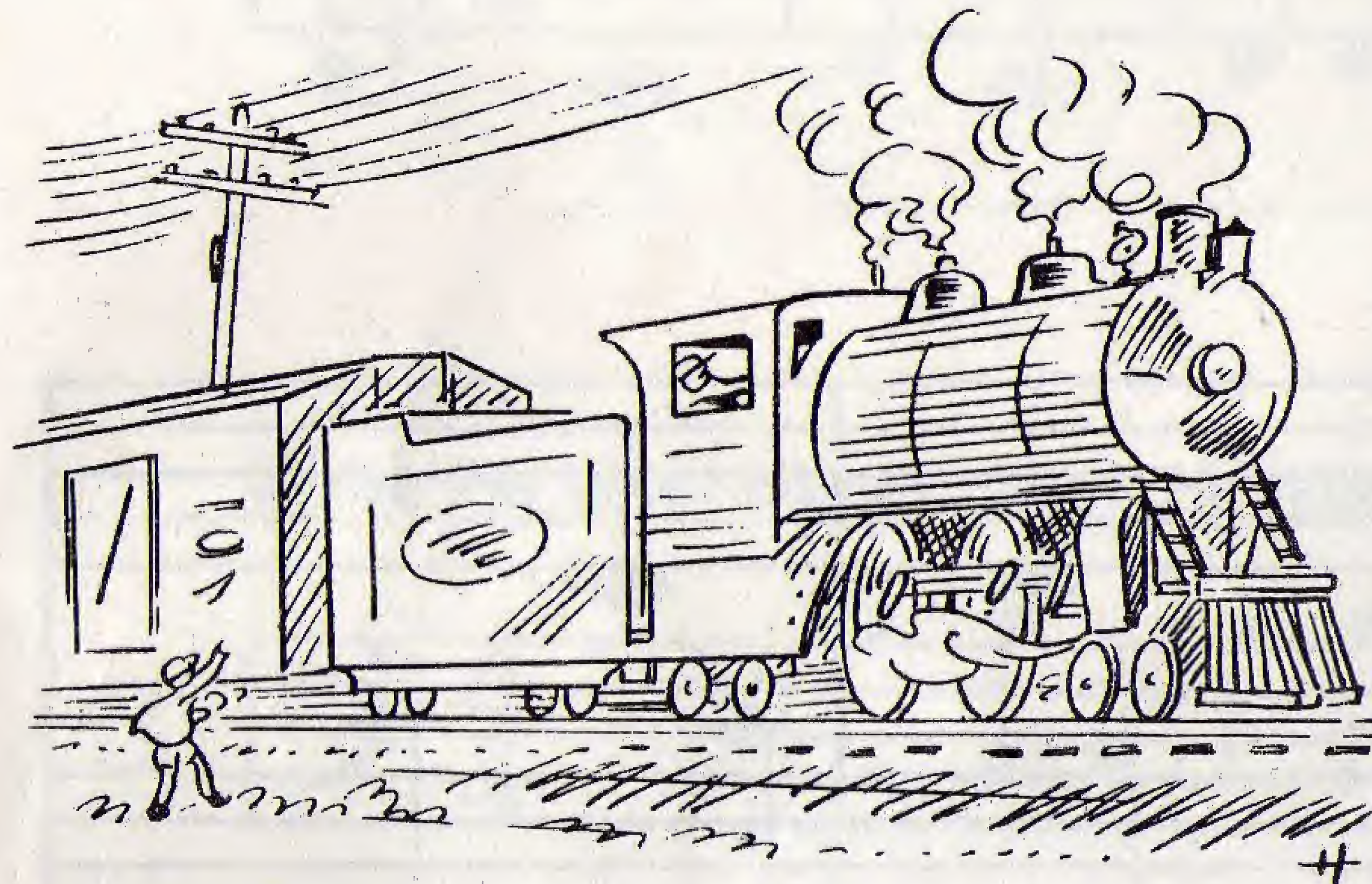
4 Whole Note 2 Two Half Notes 1 Four Quarter Notes 2 Two Half Notes 4 Four Quarter Notes 4 Whole Note



# Accompaniment



## The Train

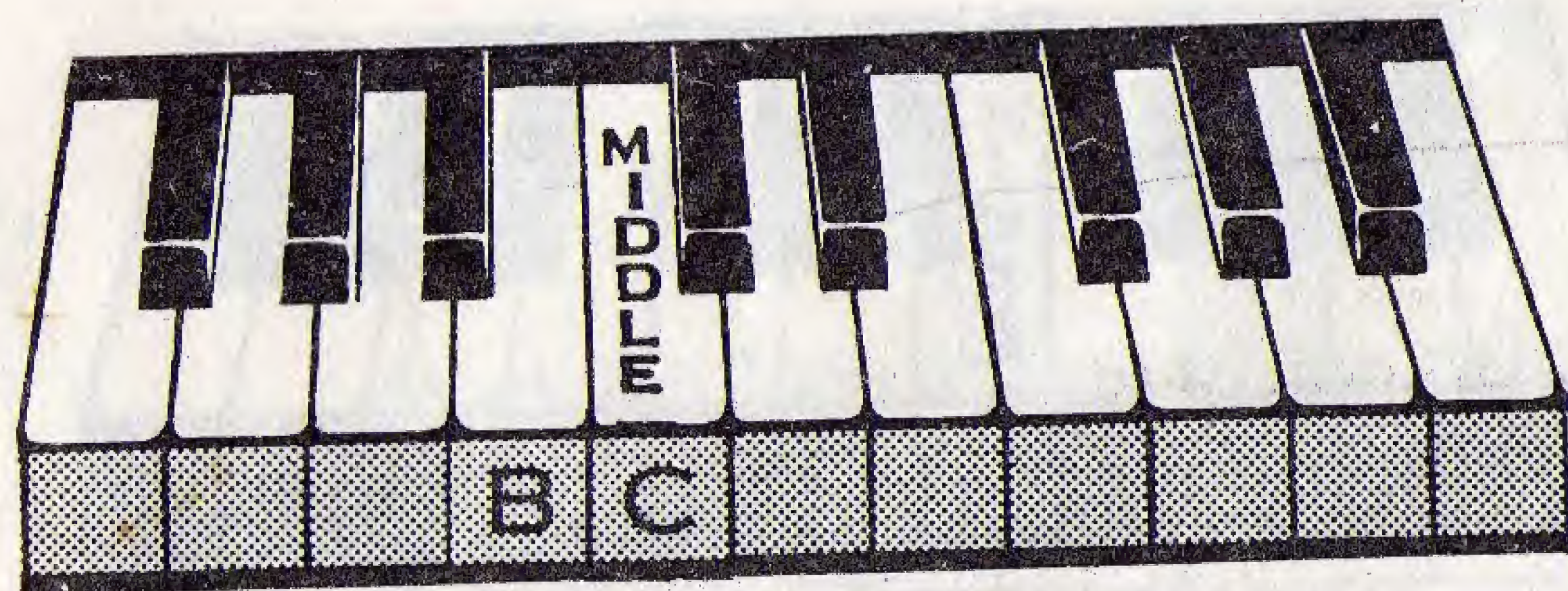


TURN TO THE WORK SHEET  
ON PAGE 15 AND DO  
EXERCISES 1 AND 2

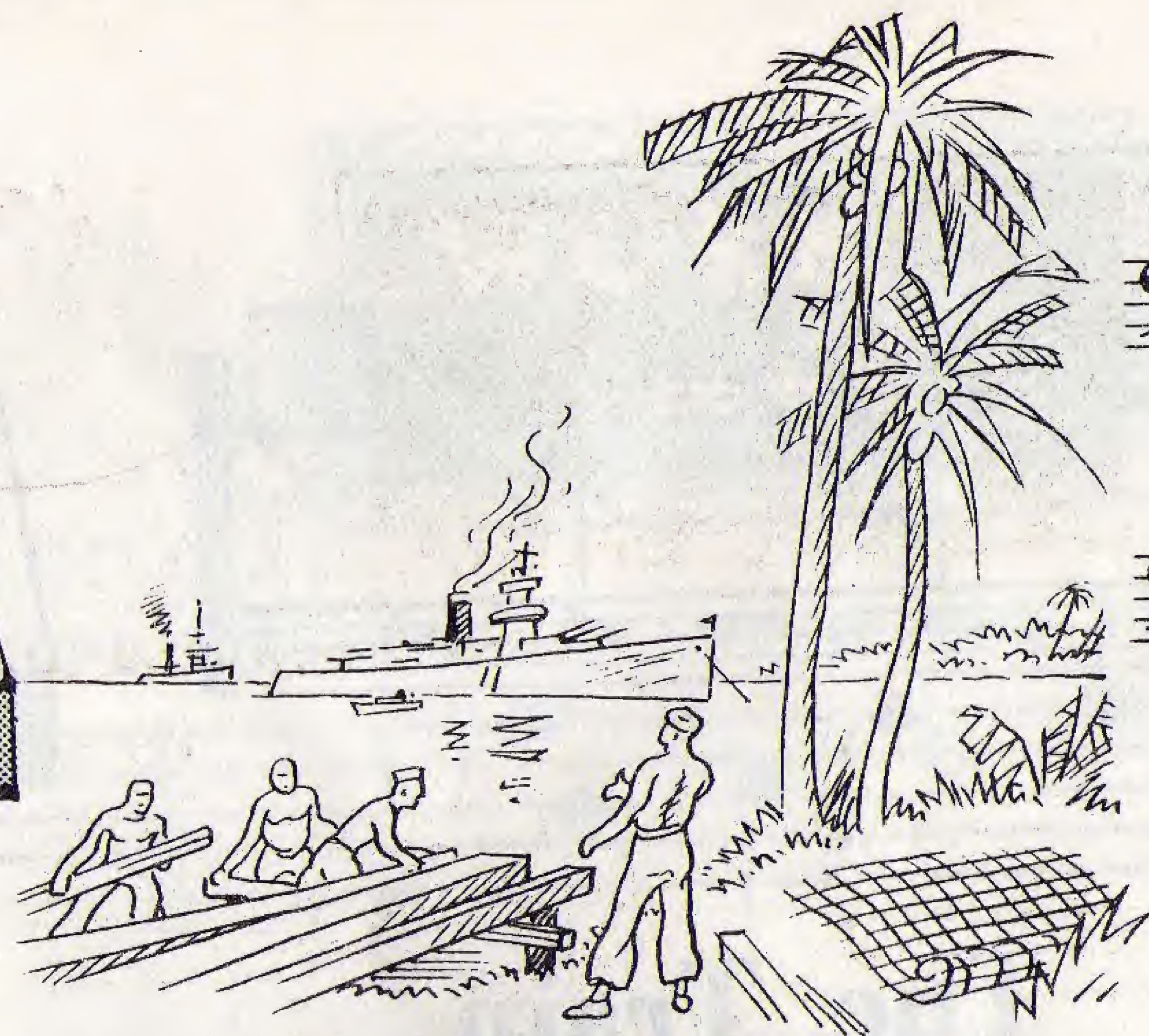
### Note to Teacher

From this point on, be sure to stress  
the importance of accenting the first  
count of each measure.





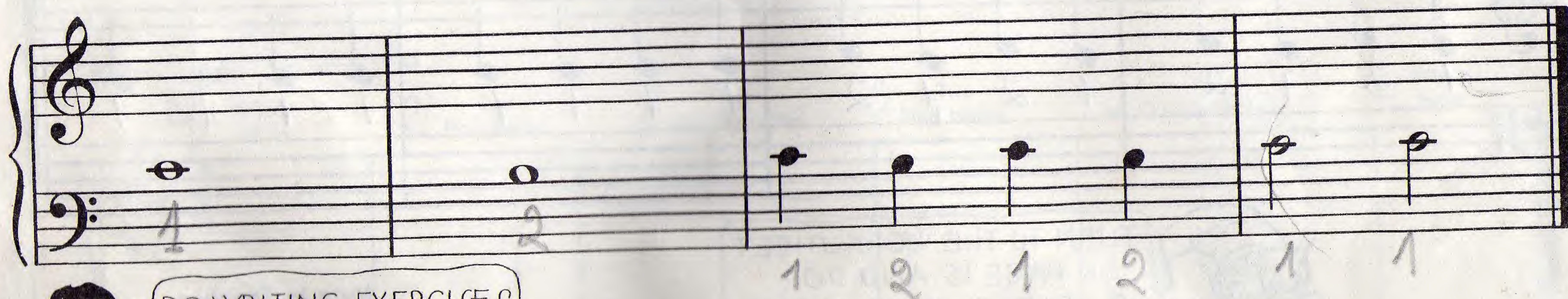
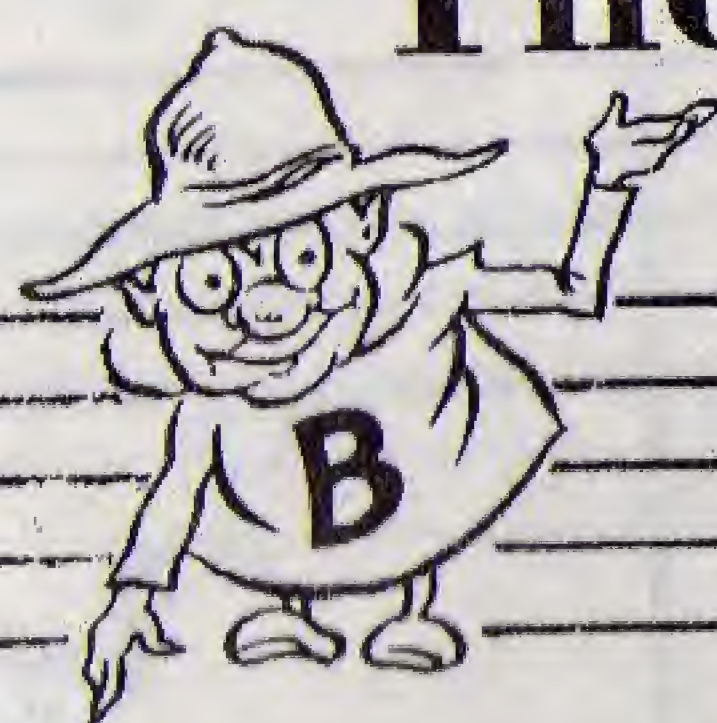
L. H.  
New Note



# Accompaniment

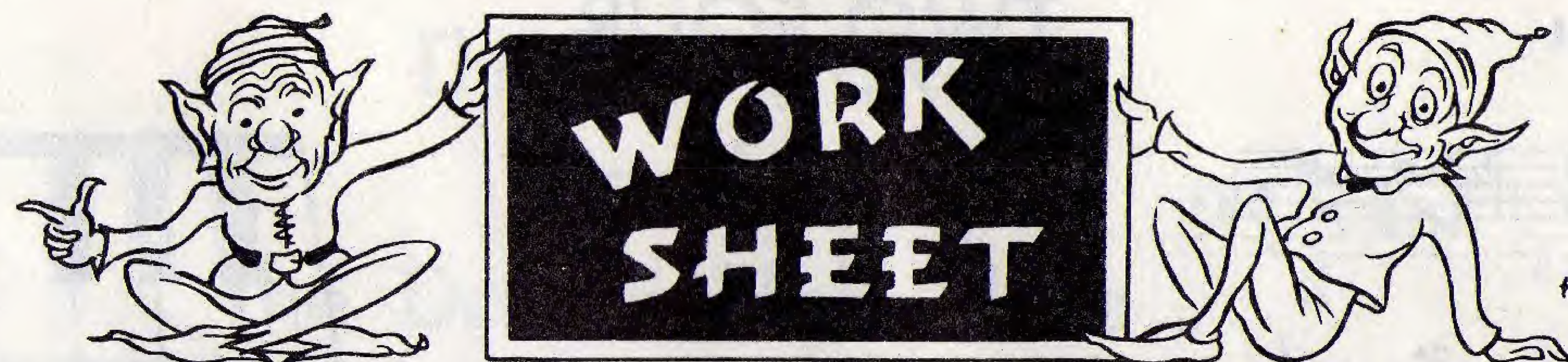


## The Seabees



DO WRITING EXERCISES  
3, 4 AND 5  
ON PAGE 15





Write the letter names under the notes.

1

C

Write the new note (D) as indicated.

2

Whole Note      Two Half Notes      Four Quarter Notes

Write the letter names under the notes.

3

C

Write the new note (B) as indicated.

4

Whole Note      Two Half Notes      Four Quarter Notes

In the following exercise, first draw the Bar Lines where they belong. (note Time Signature).

Next write the letter names of the notes.

Finally, mark the Time Values—using 1 for a Quarter, 2 for a Half and 4 for a Whole Note.

5

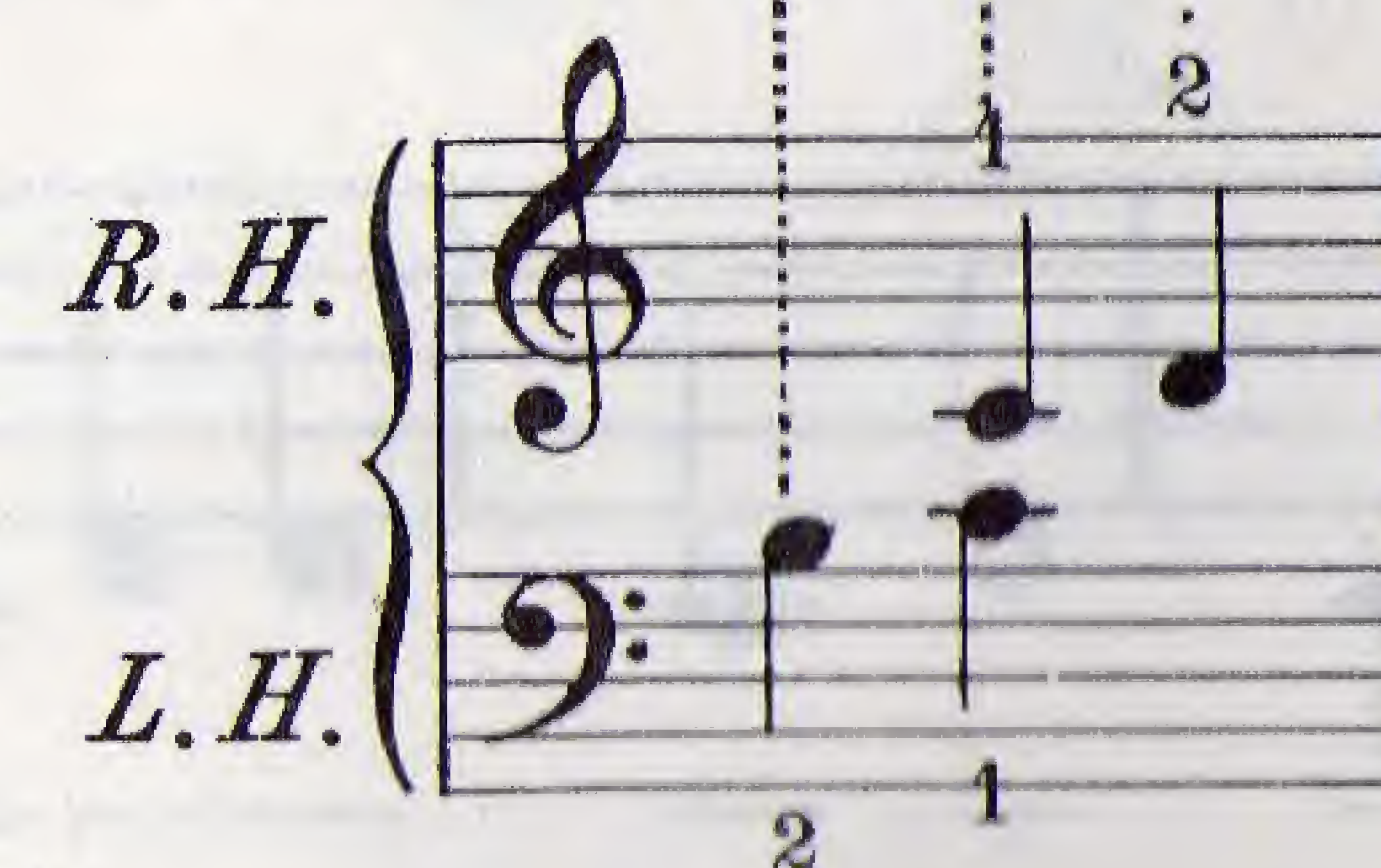
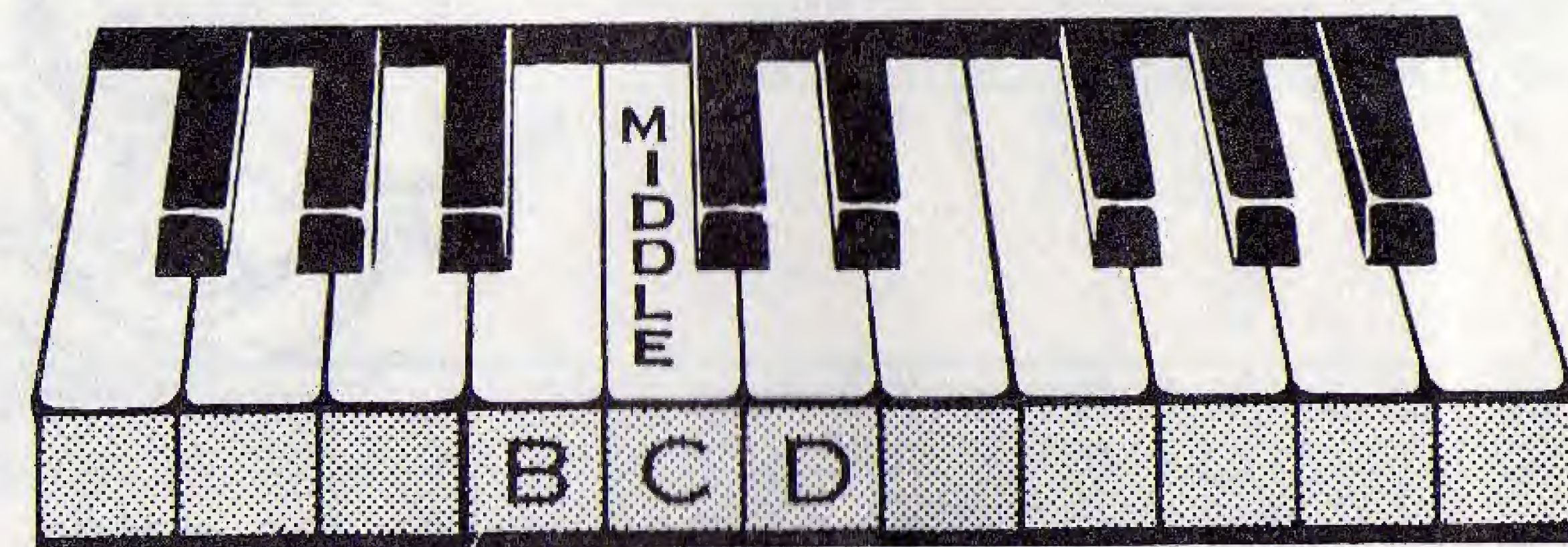
Letter Names C

Time Values 2



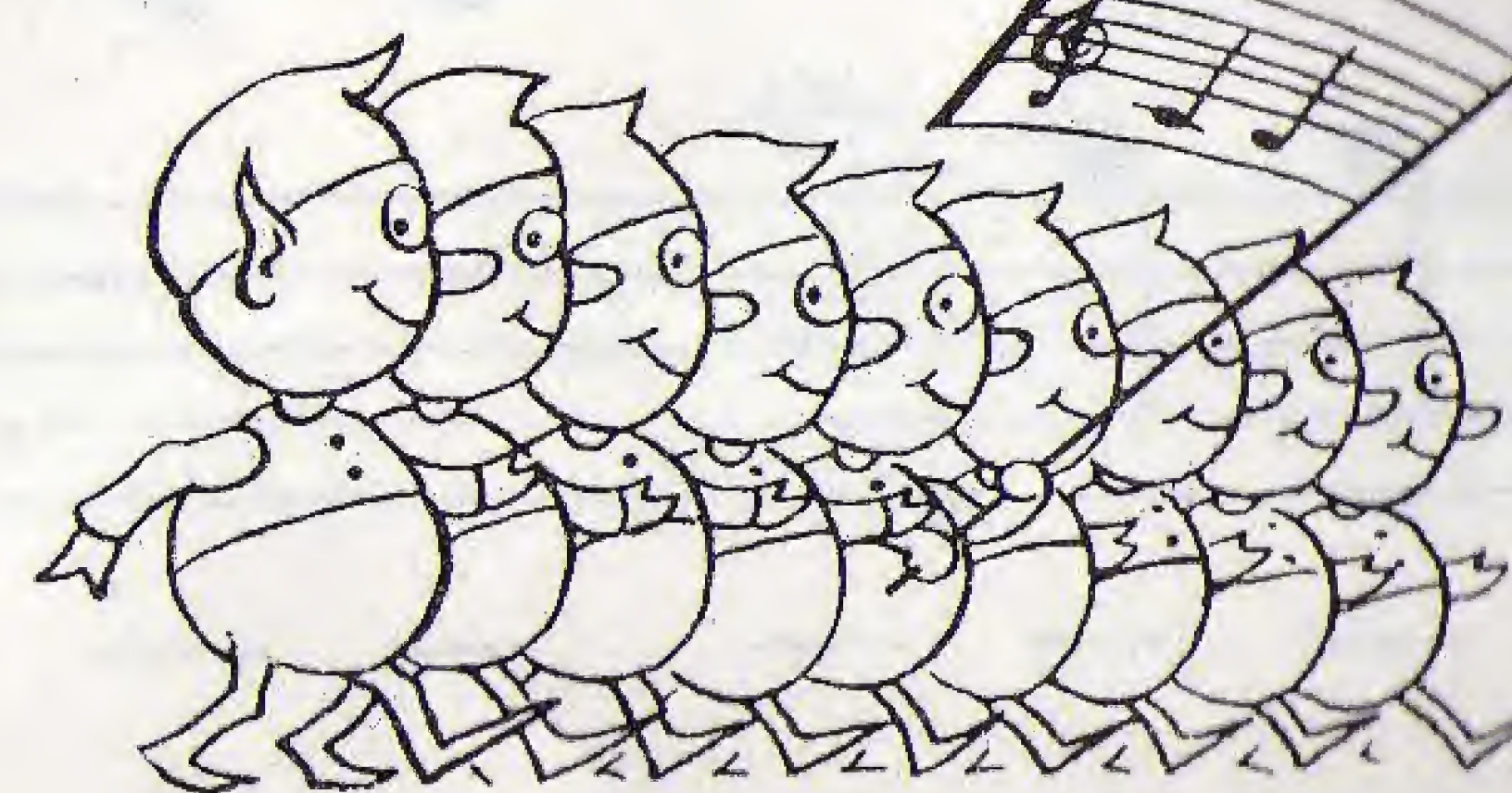
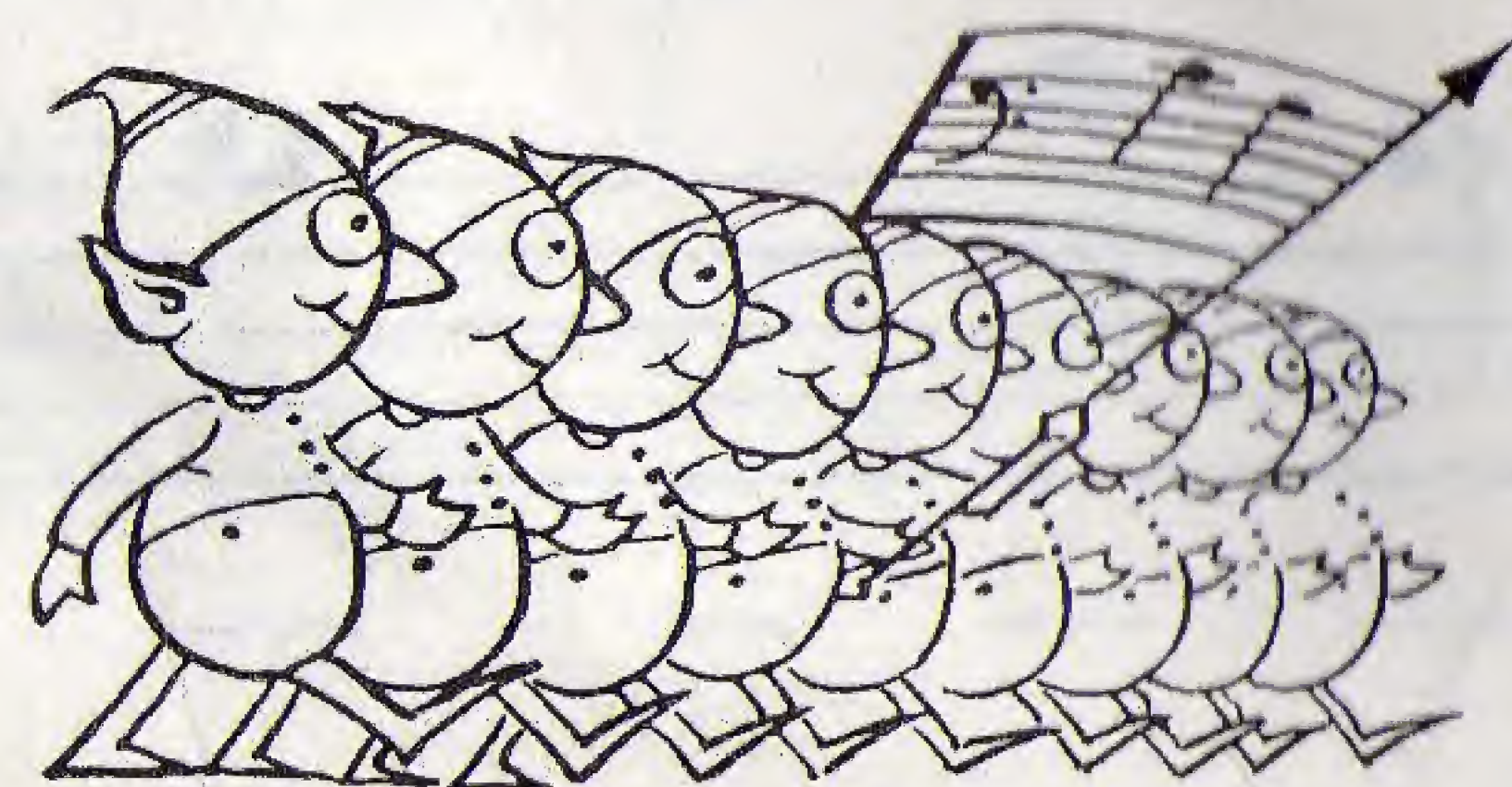
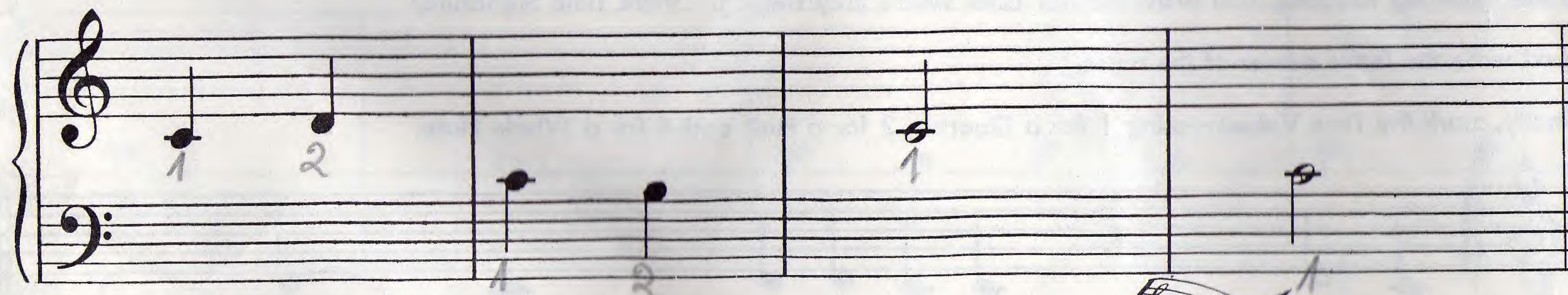
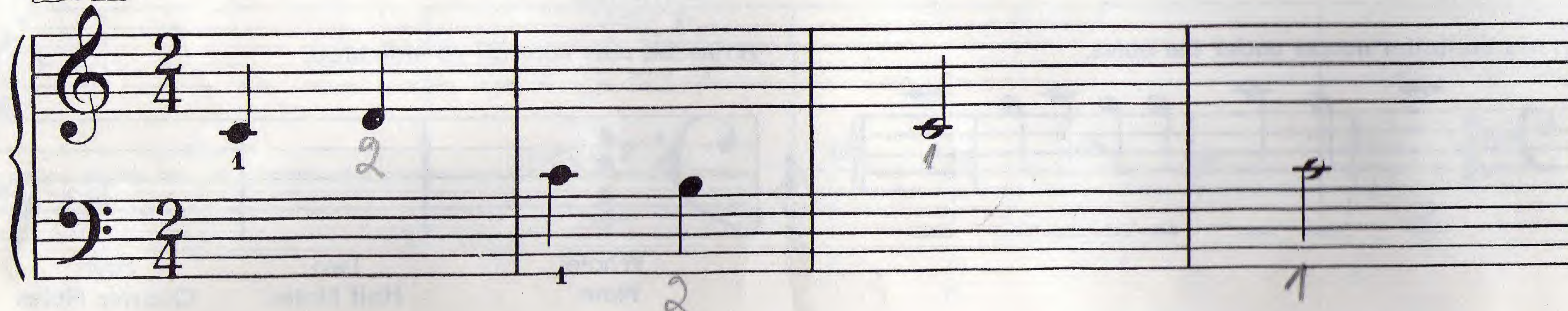
## Accompaniment

## TWO-FOUR



COUNT TWO  
TO EACH  
MEASURE

## March of the Gnomes





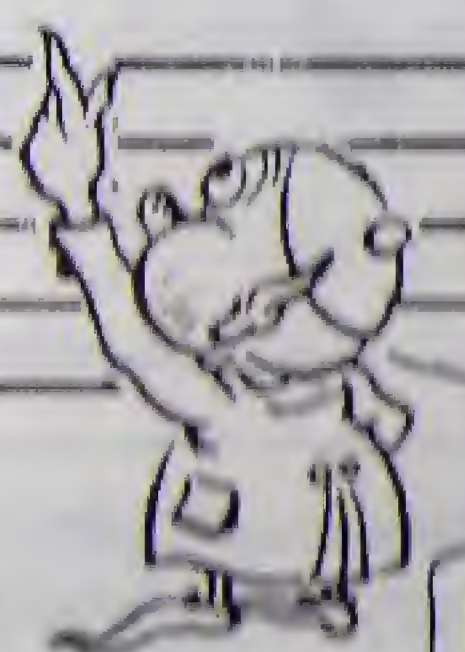
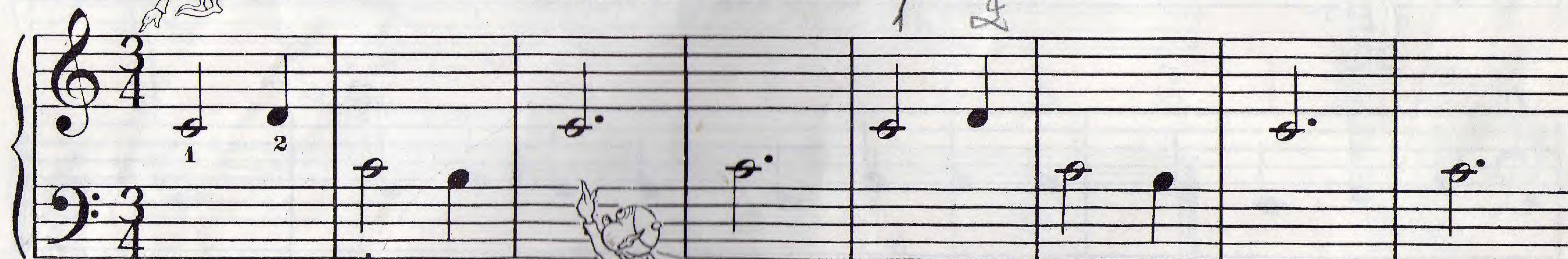
# THREE-FOUR and The Dotted Half Note

The dotted half-note  
looks like this (♩· or ♩·)  
and is held for 3 counts.

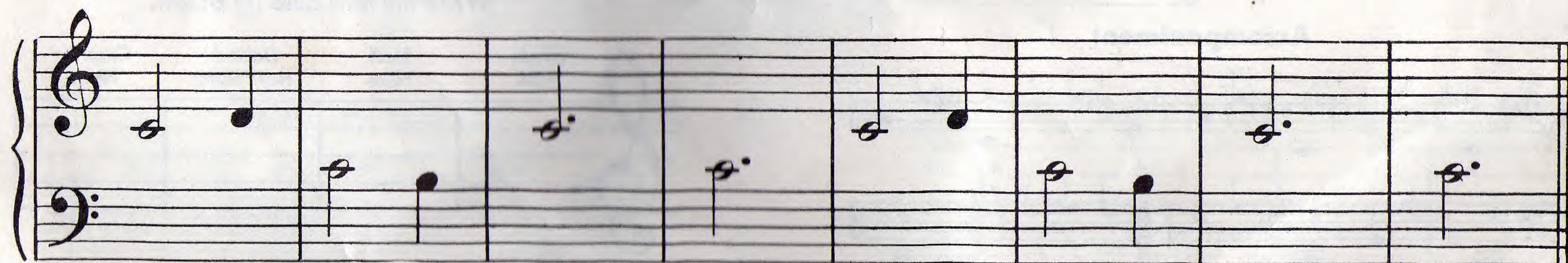


COUNT 3 TO  
EACH MEASURE

## Dance of the Gnomes



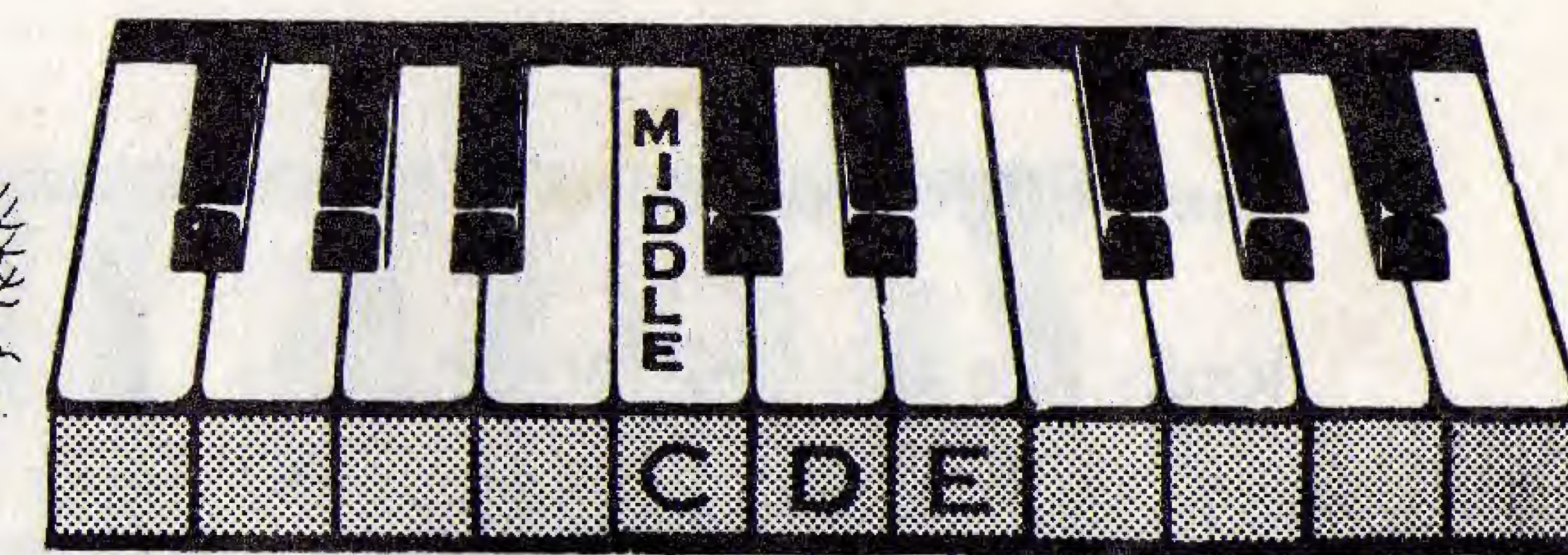
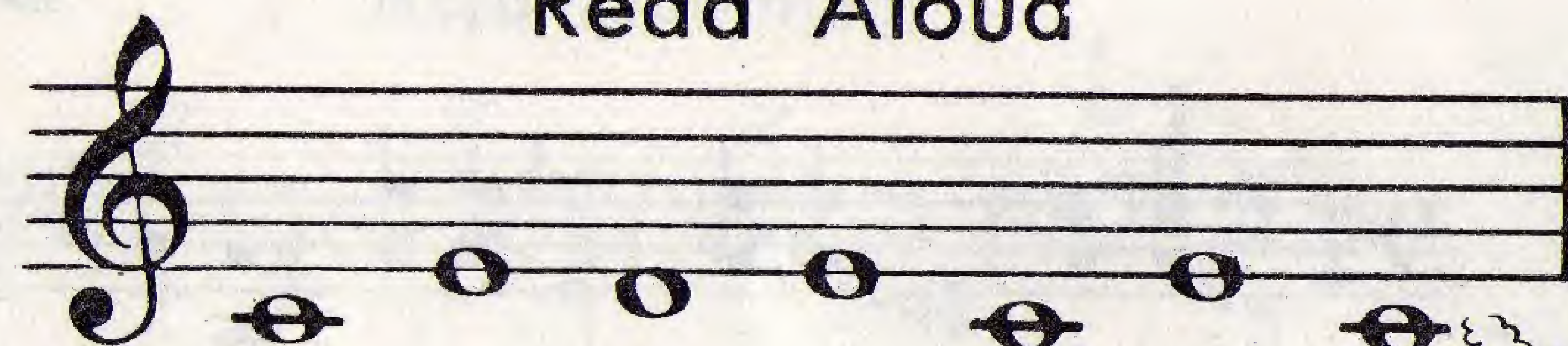
DOTTED HALF /  
HOLD FOR 3 COUNTS



See the importance of correct counting? These are the same notes you played in "March of the Gnomes" but they make a new piece when you count 3 to each measure.



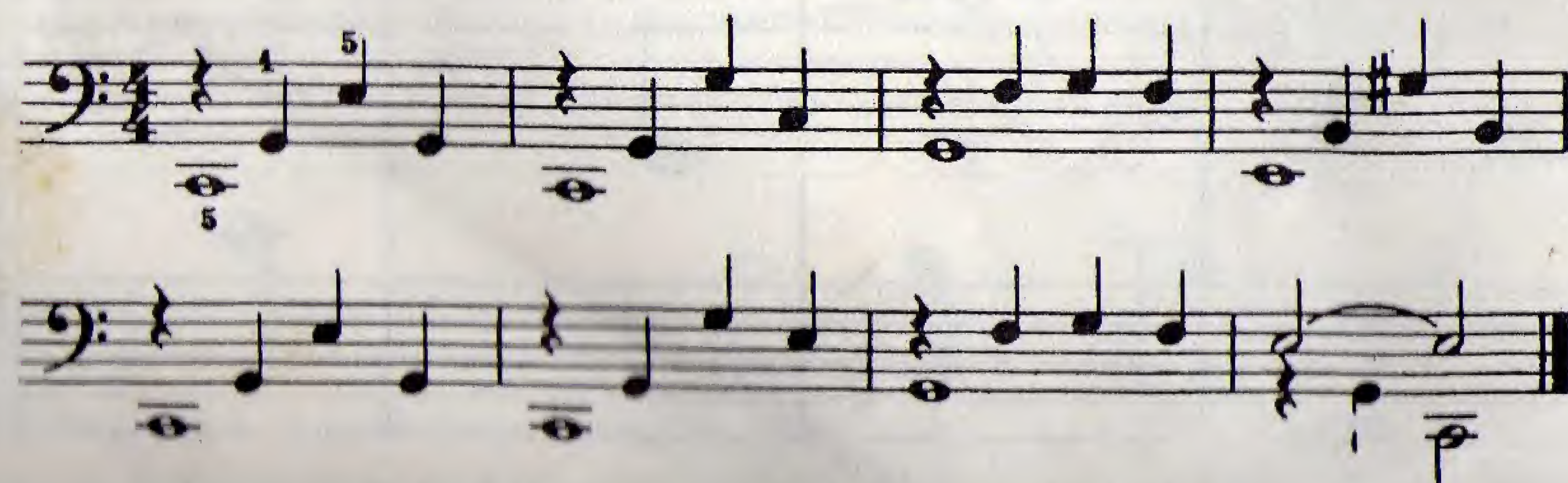
Read Aloud



# Mary Had a Little Lamb

Handwritten fingerings (1-3) are written above the notes in the melody. A cartoon character with the letter 'E' on its chest is pointing to the first 'E' note in the melody.

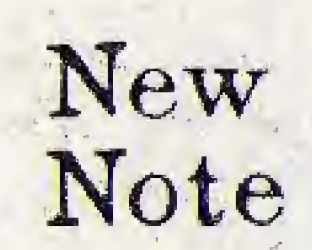
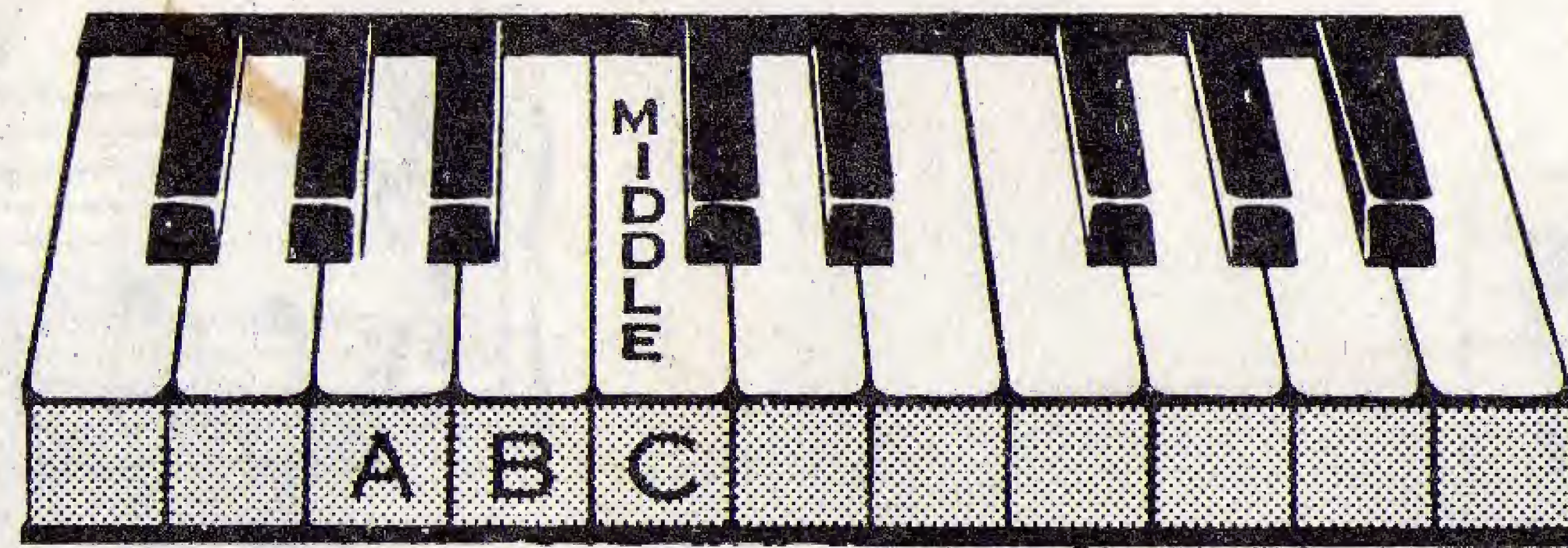
## Accompaniment



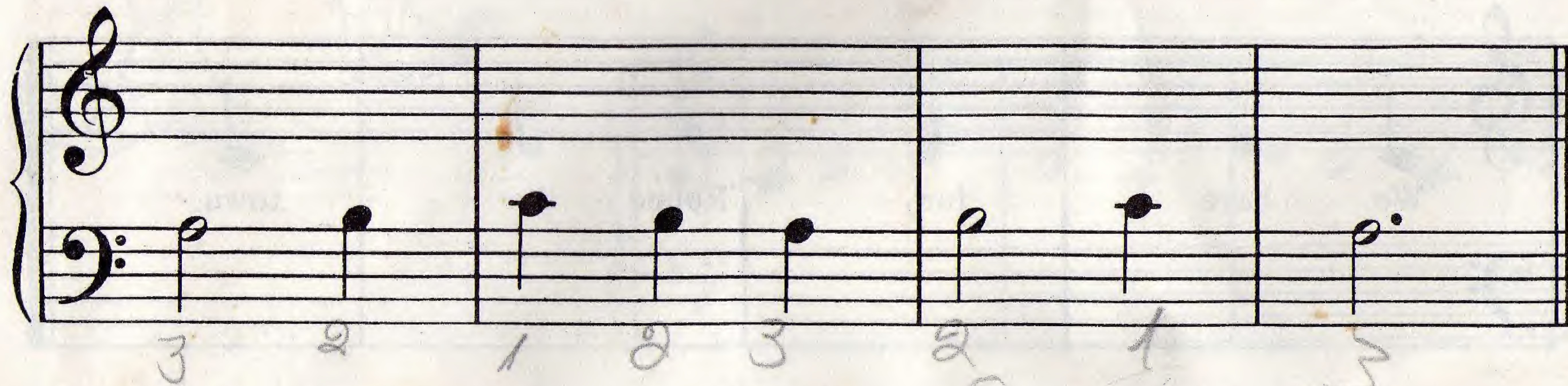
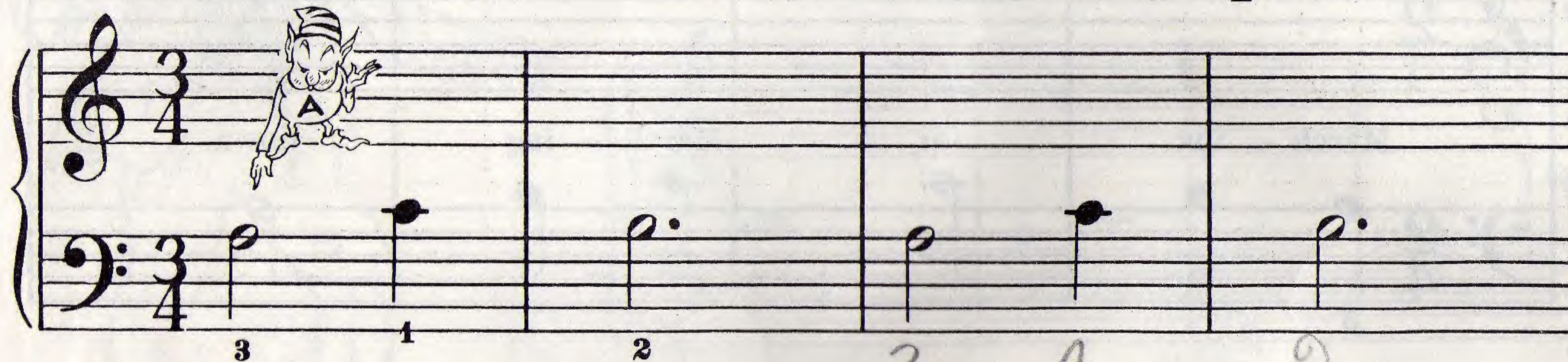
Write the new note (E) below.

Whole Note	Half Note	Dotted Half Note	Quarter Note

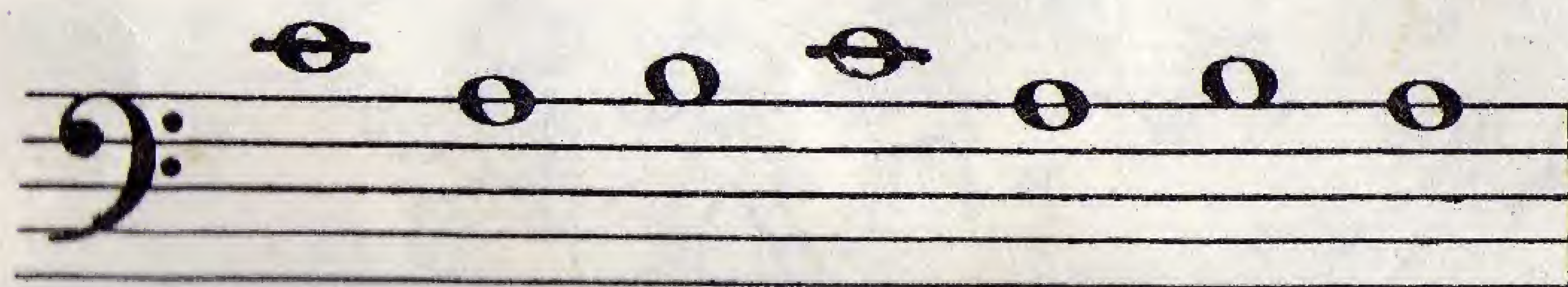




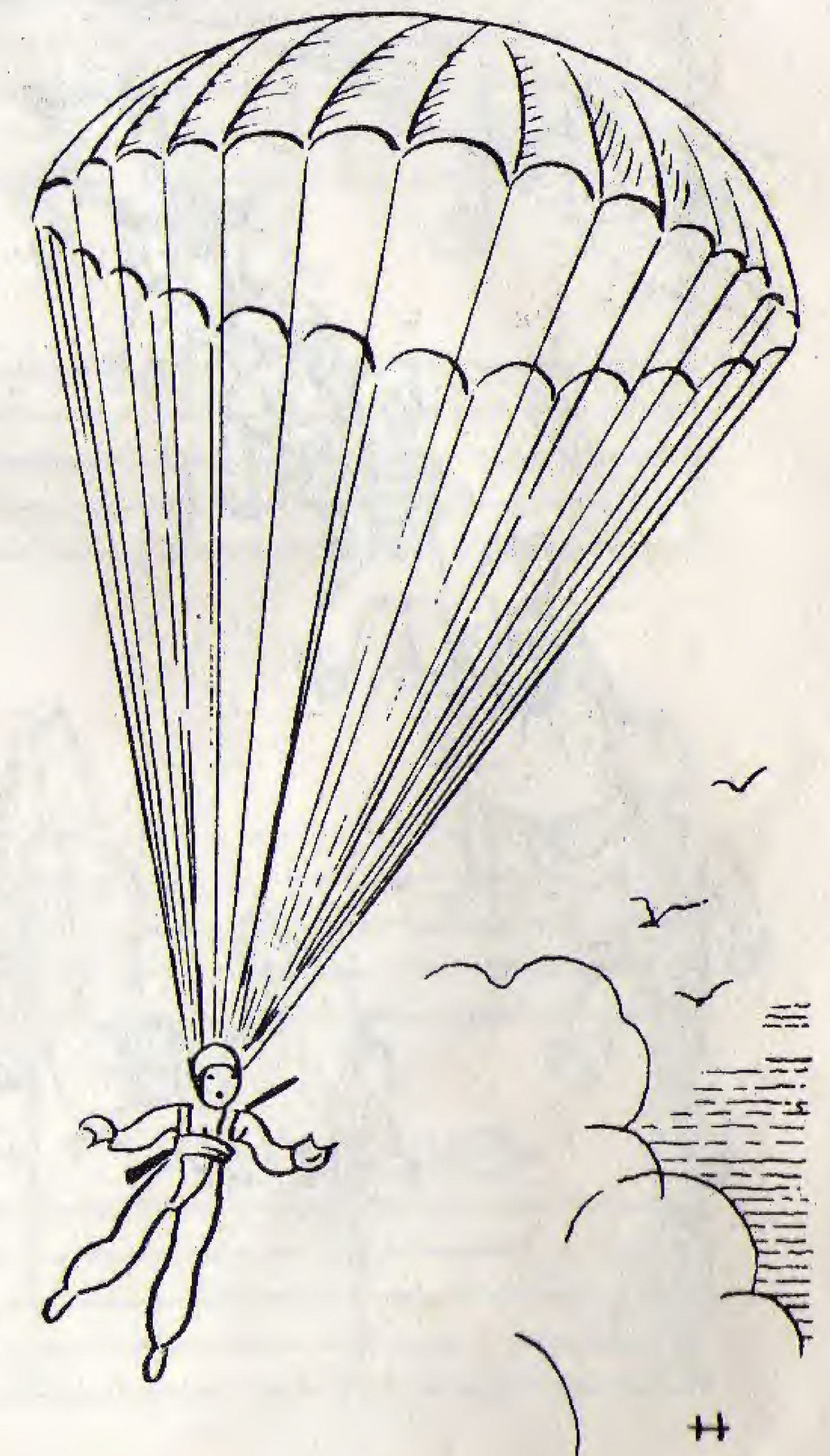
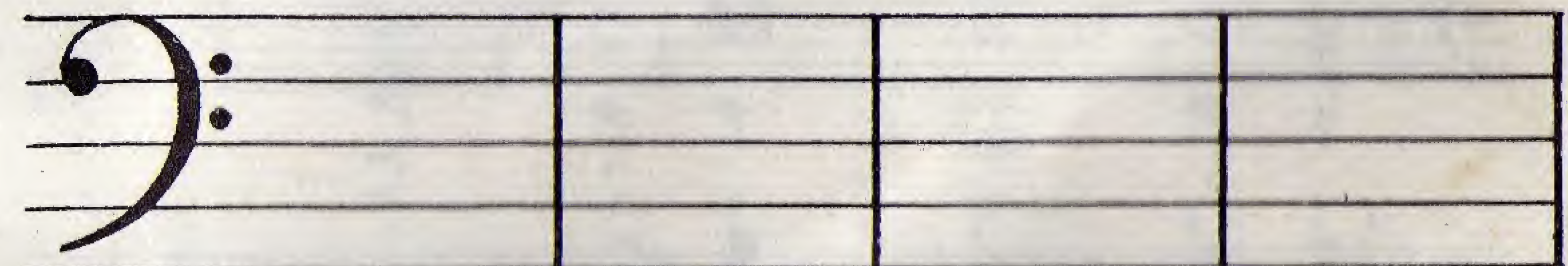
# The Paratrooper



## Read Aloud

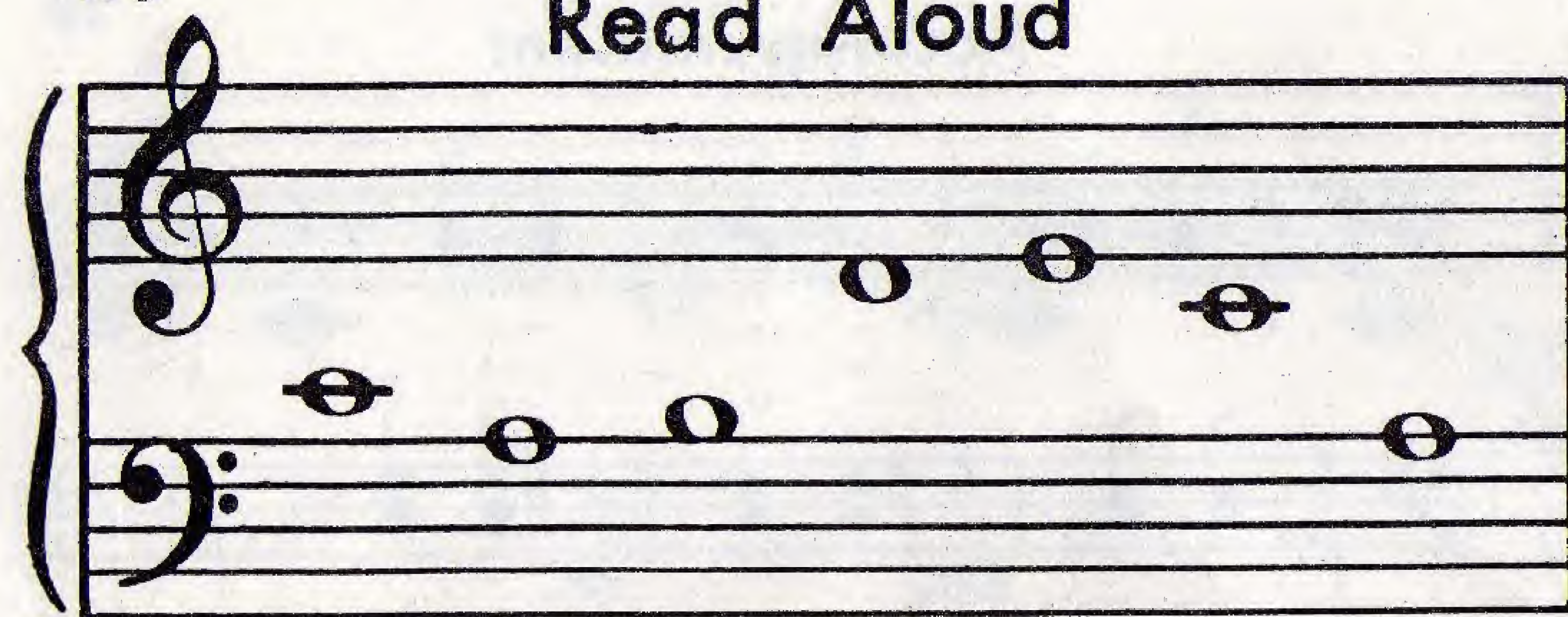


Write the new note (A) below.

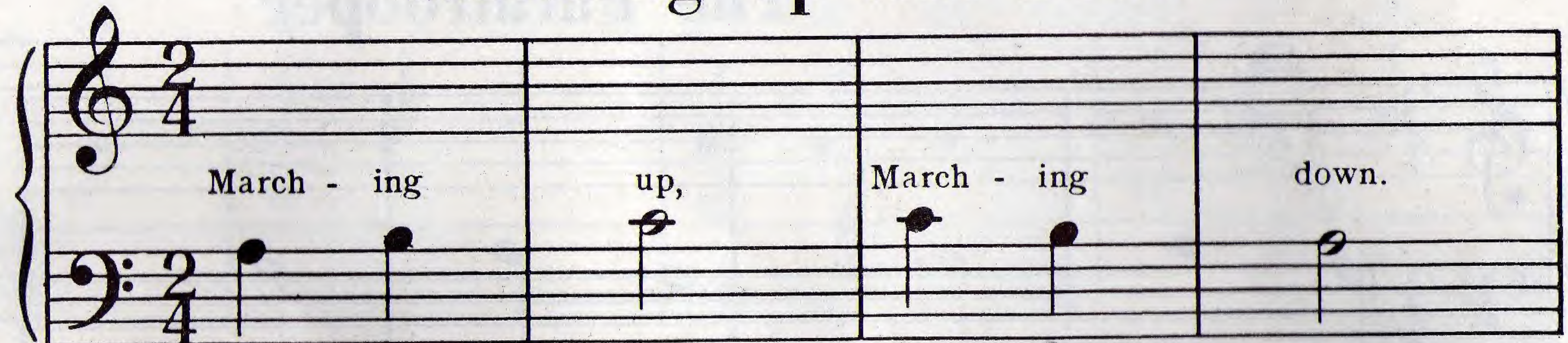




# Read Aloud



## Marching Up and Down

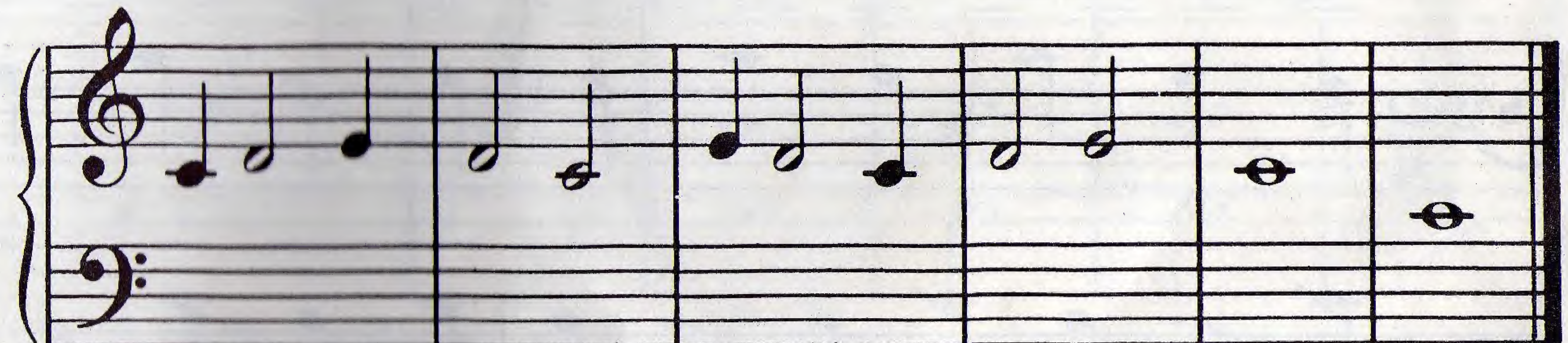
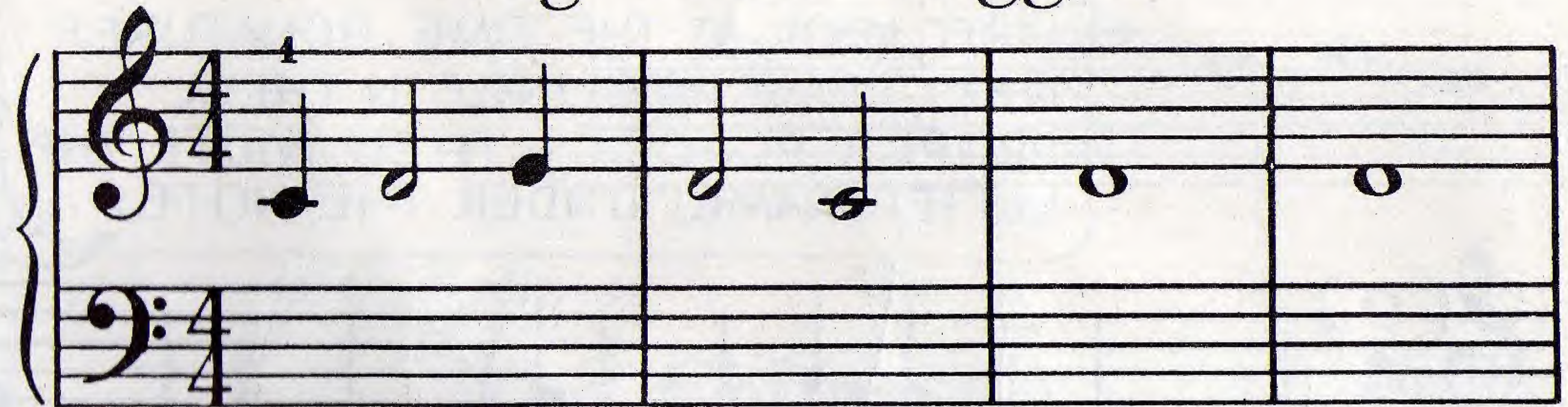


### Accompaniment

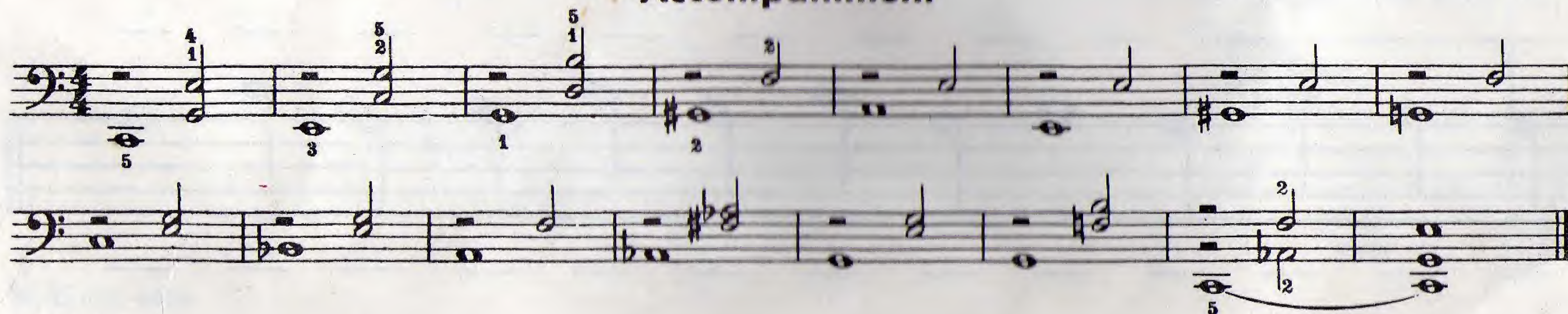




# Rag-Time Raggles



## Accompaniment





## Work Sheet

FIRST, LOOK AT THE TIME SIGNATURES  
NEXT, DRAW BAR LINES IN THEIR  
PROPER PLACES - THEN, WRITE THE  
LETTER-NAMES UNDER THE NOTES



Handwritten musical notation on six staves, showing time signatures and notes. The notation is written in pencil and includes bar lines drawn by the student.

Staff 1: Treble clef, 2/4 time signature. Notes: C4, D4, E4, F4, G4, A4, B4, C5, B4, A4, G4, F4, E4, D4, C4.

Staff 2: Treble clef, 3/4 time signature. Notes: C4, D4, E4, F4, G4, A4, B4, C5, B4, A4, G4, F4, E4, D4, C4.

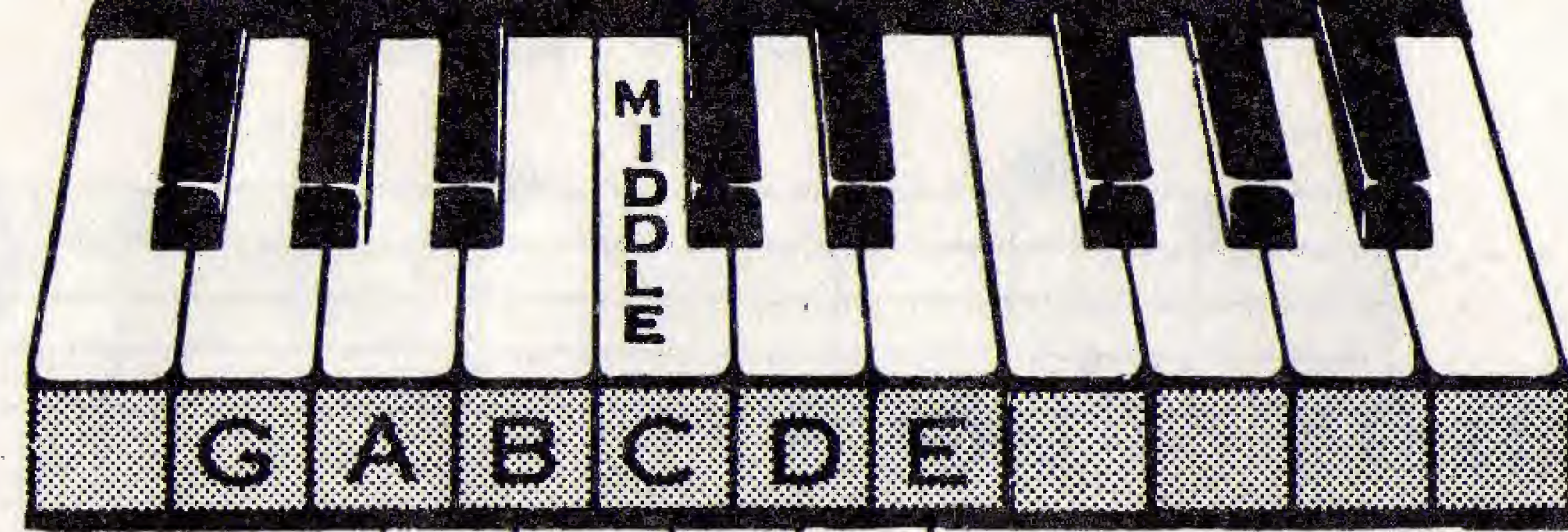
Staff 3: Treble clef, 4/4 time signature. Notes: C4, D4, E4, F4, G4, A4, B4, C5, B4, A4, G4, F4, E4, D4, C4.

Staff 4: Bass clef, 2/4 time signature. Notes: C3, D3, E3, F3, G3, A3, B3, C4, B3, A3, G3, F3, E3, D3, C3.

Staff 5: Bass clef, 3/4 time signature. Notes: C3, D3, E3, F3, G3, A3, B3, C4, B3, A3, G3, F3, E3, D3, C3.

Staff 6: Bass clef, 4/4 time signature. Notes: C3, D3, E3, F3, G3, A3, B3, C4, B3, A3, G3, F3, E3, D3, C3.



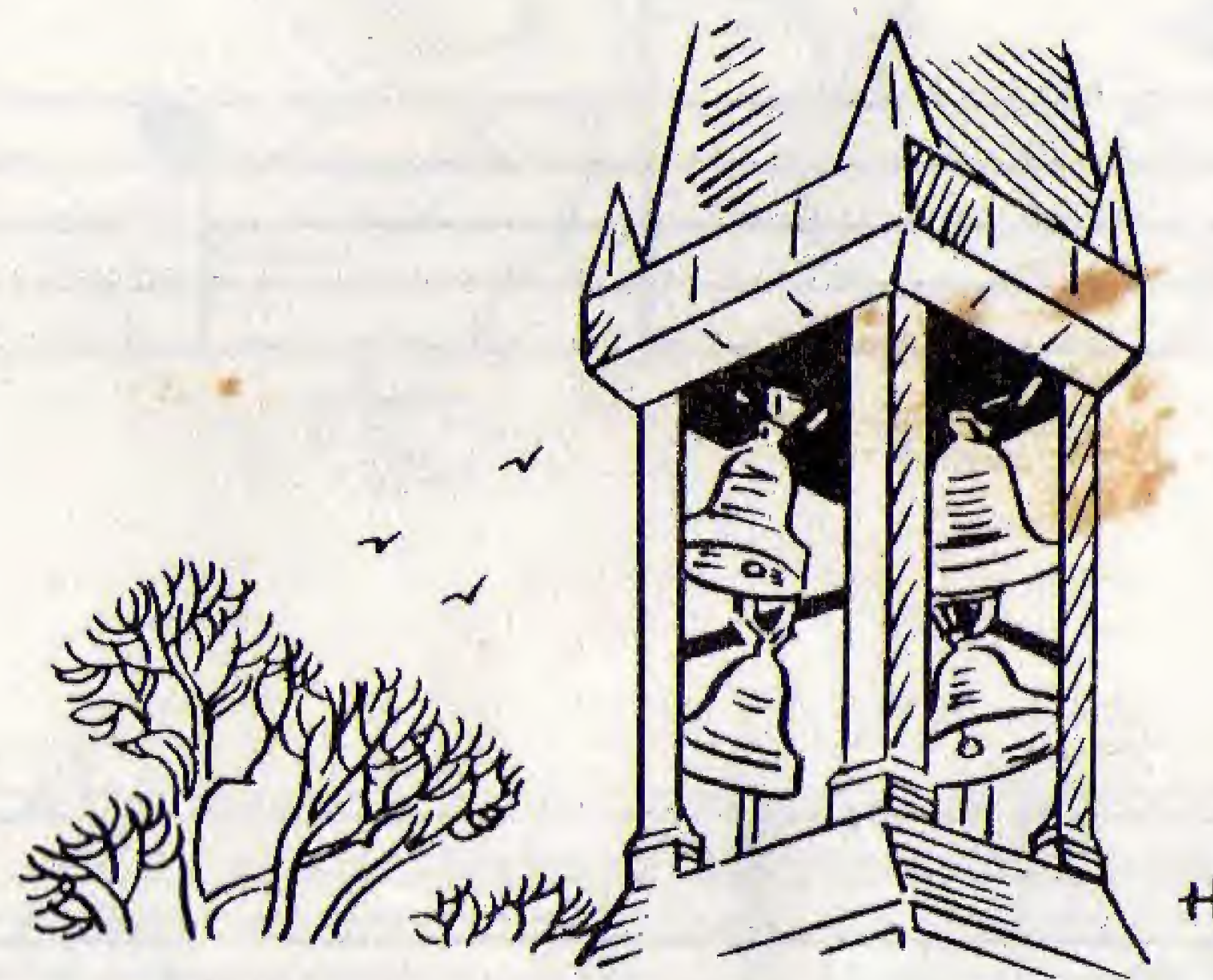


New Note

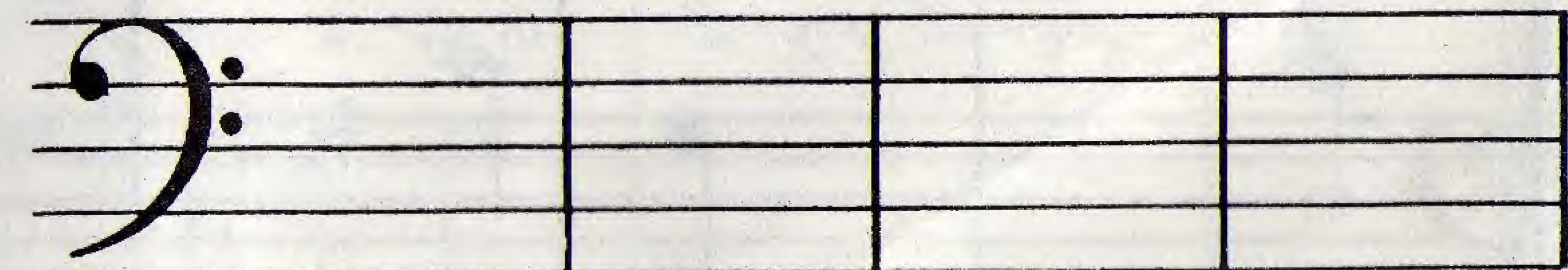
Read Aloud



# The Chimes



Write the new note (G) below.



Whole Note

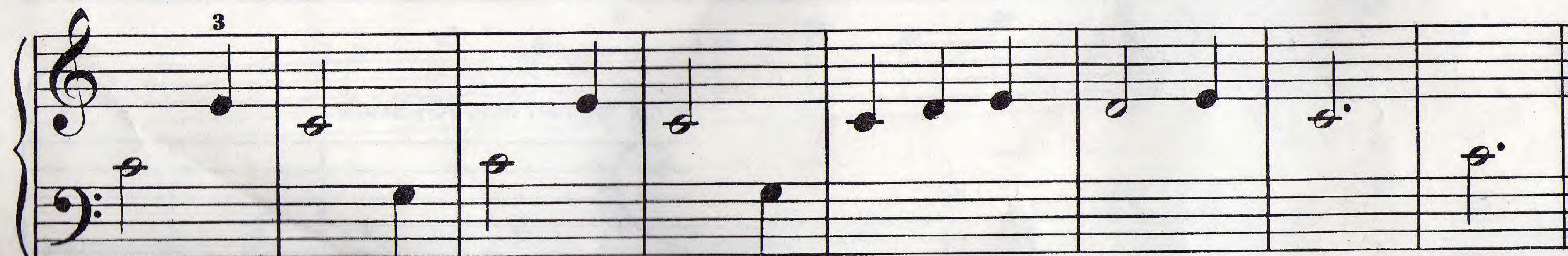
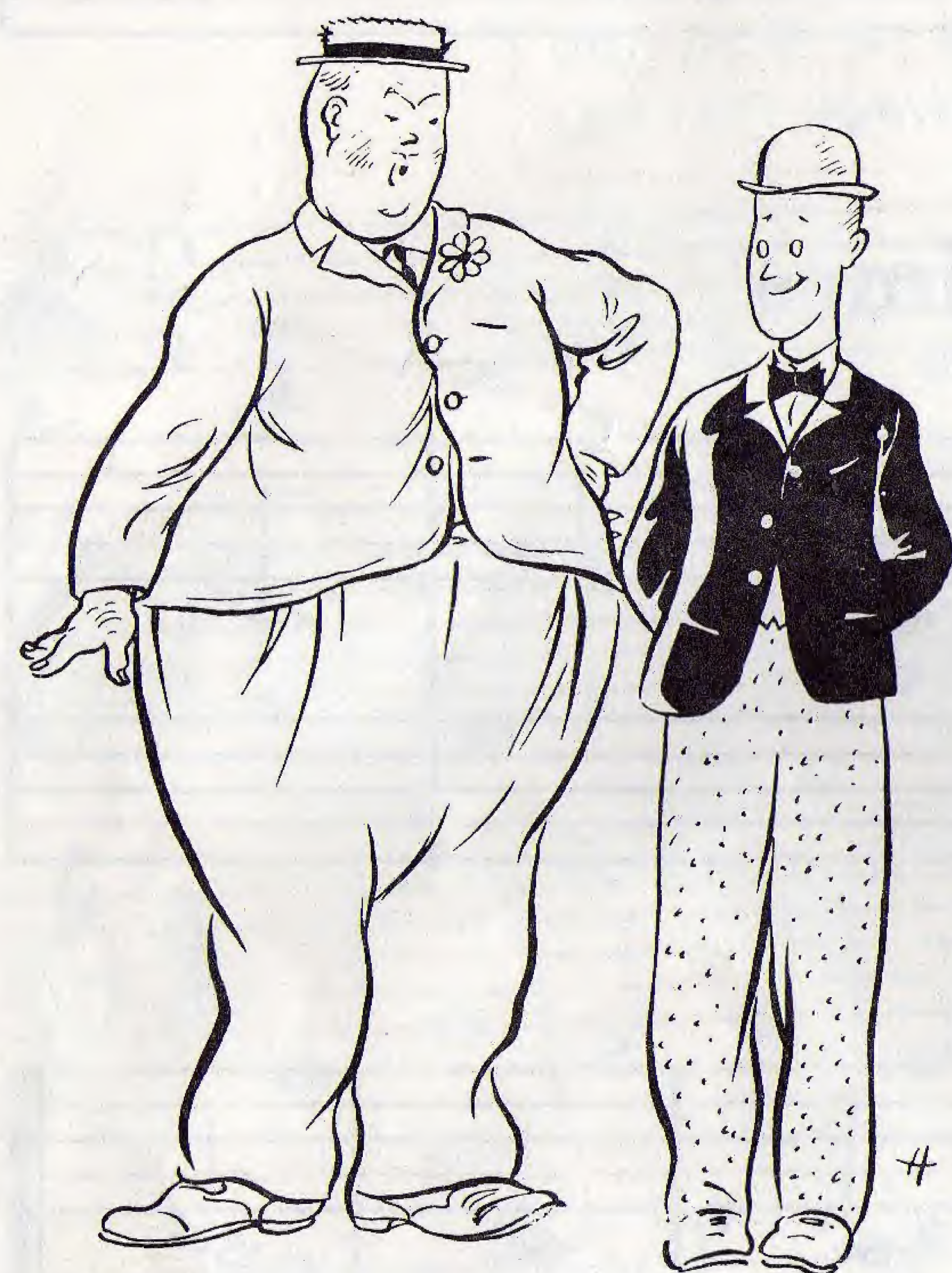
Half Note

Dotted Half Note

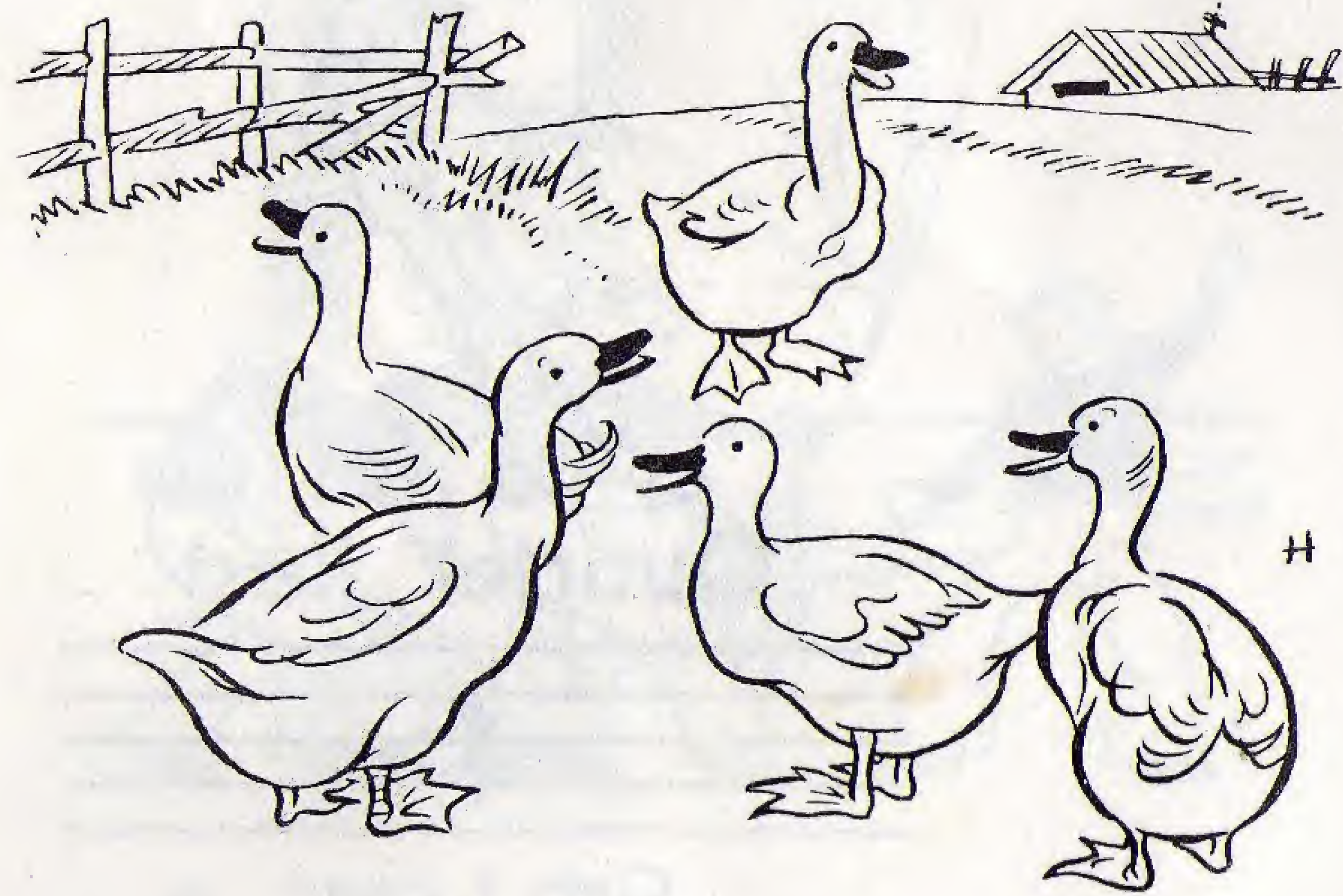
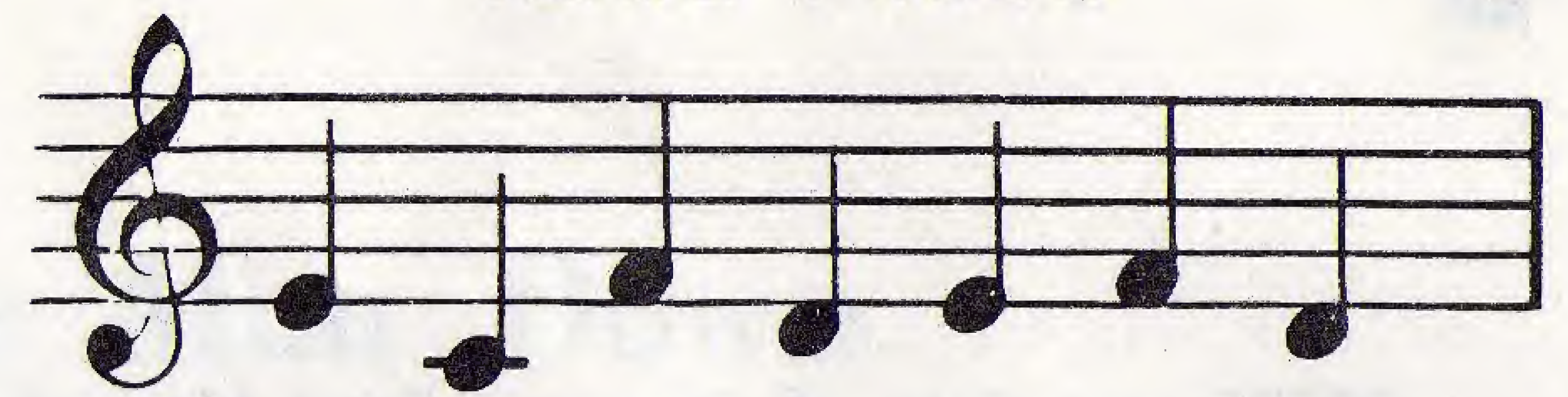
Quarter Note



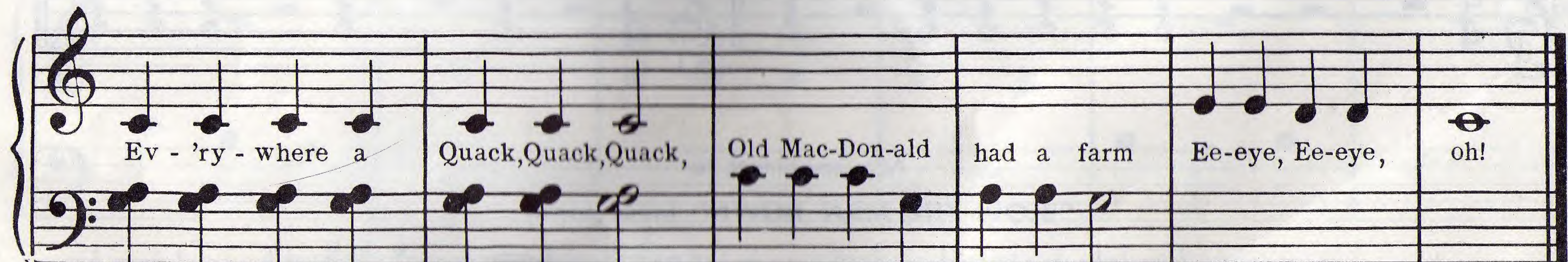
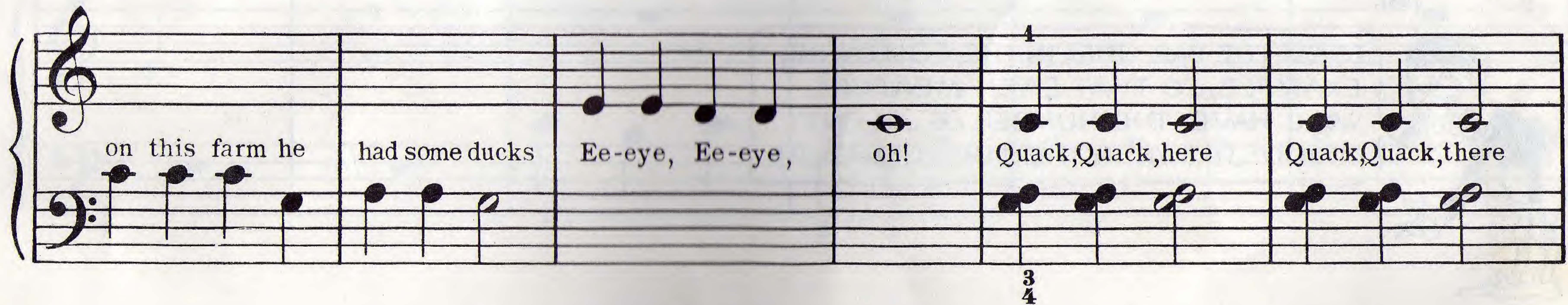
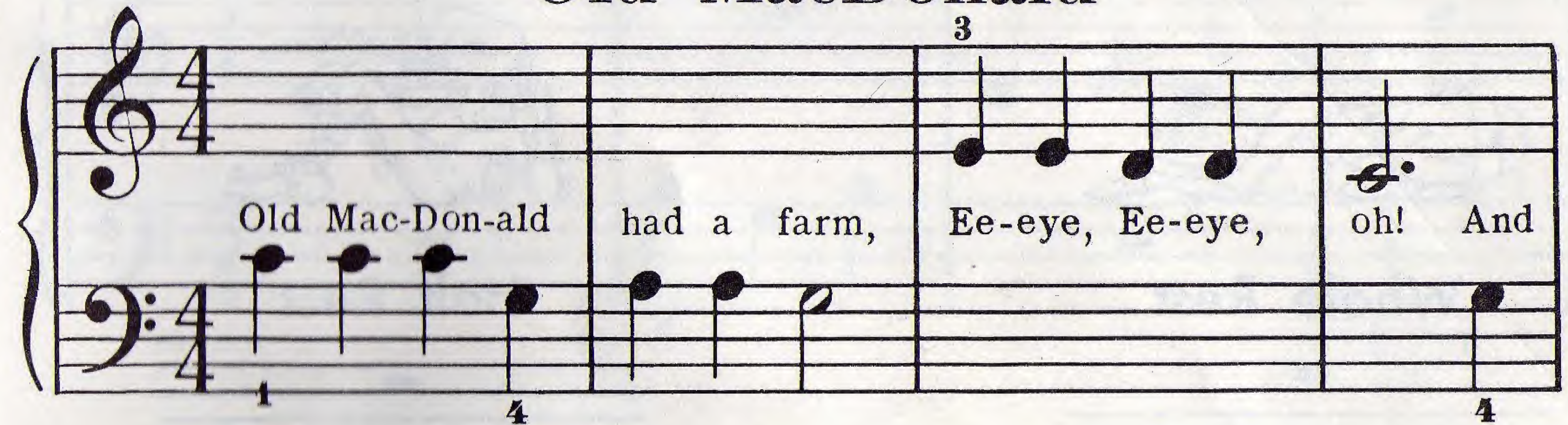
# Funny Faces







# Old MacDonald





# RESTS

RESTS are signs of silence. Each kind of Note has a Rest Sign of equal value.



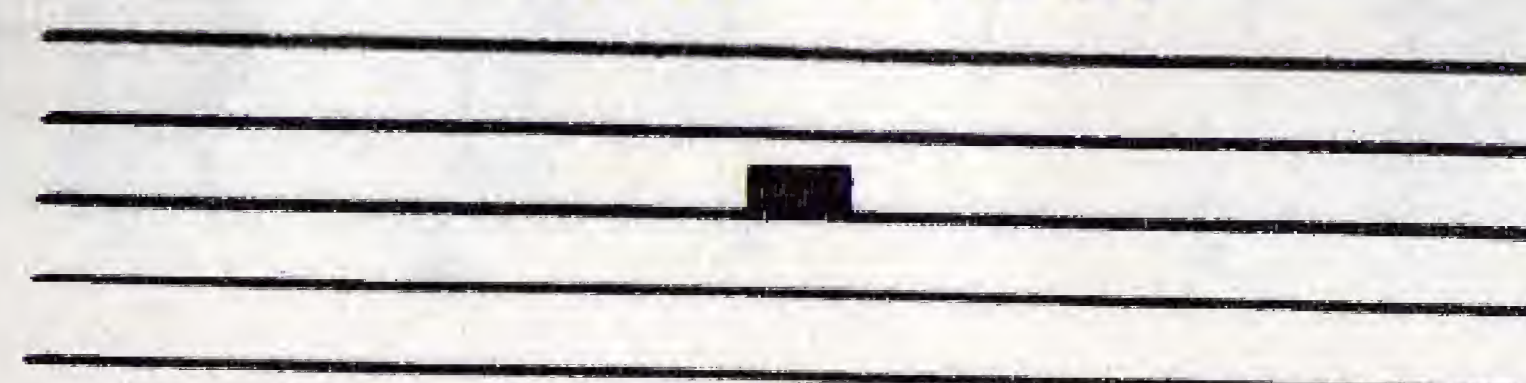
Whole Rest



A whole measure's rest.



Half Rest



Gets 2 counts



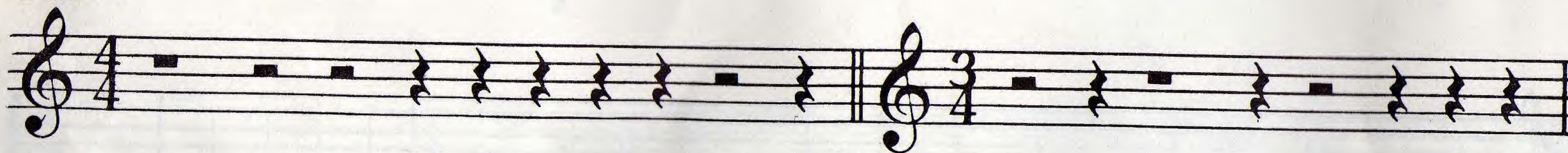
Quarter Rest



Gets 1 count

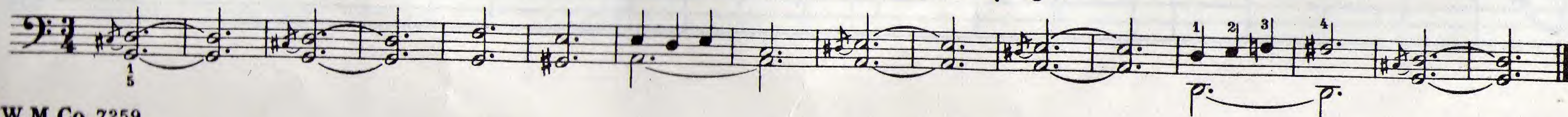


DRAW THE BAR LINES IN THE FOLLOWING EXAMPLE, SO THAT EACH MEASURE WILL HAVE THE NUMBER OF SILENT COUNTS SHOWN IN THE TIME SIGNATURE



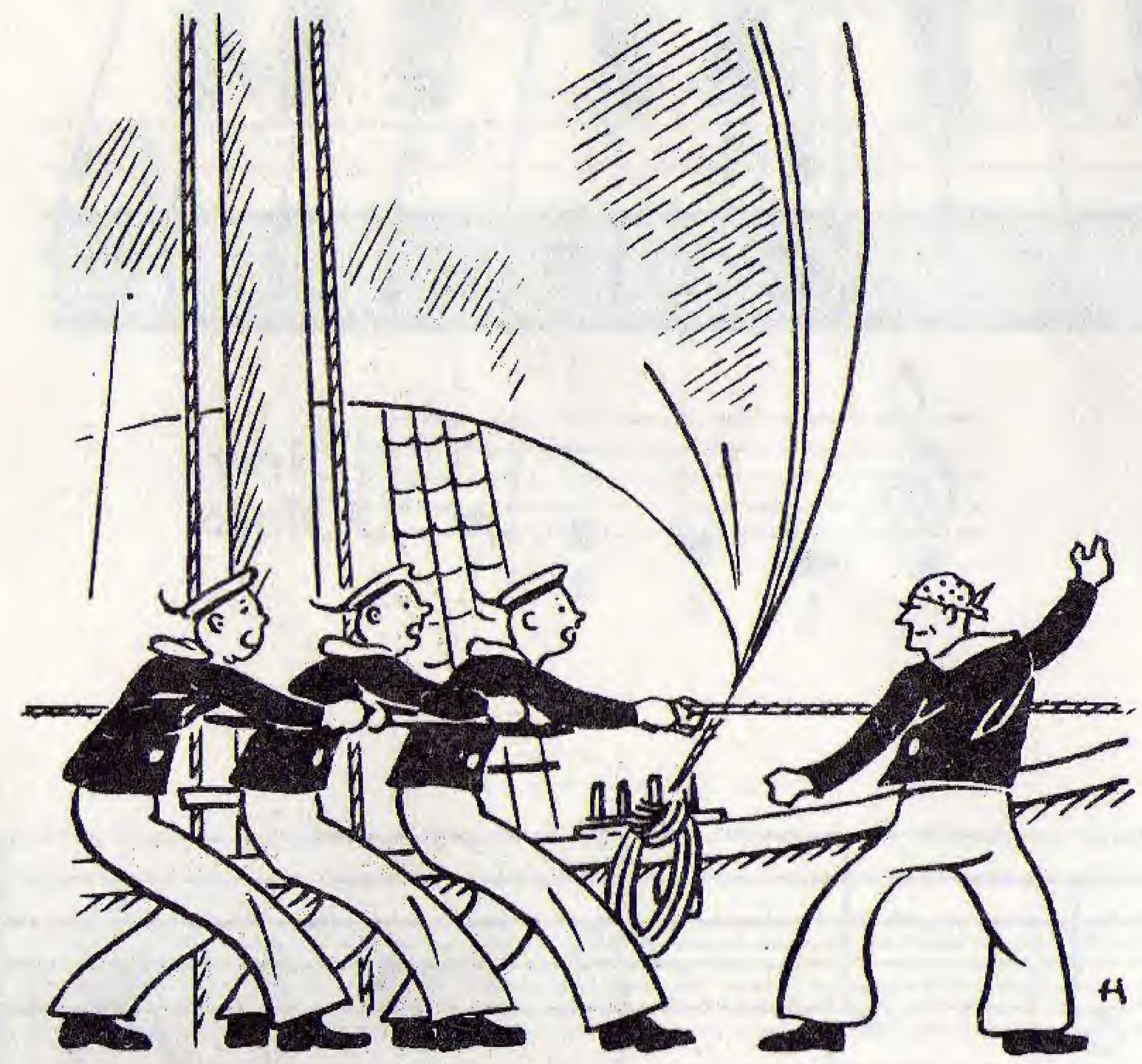
Accompaniment to

"BLOW THE MAN DOWN" (next page)





# Blow the Man Down



Musical notation for the first system, featuring a treble and bass staff in 3/4 time. The melody in the treble staff begins with a quarter note G4, followed by a quarter note A4, and a quarter note B4. The bass staff provides a simple accompaniment with a half note G3 and a half note F3. A fermata is placed over the final note of the treble staff.

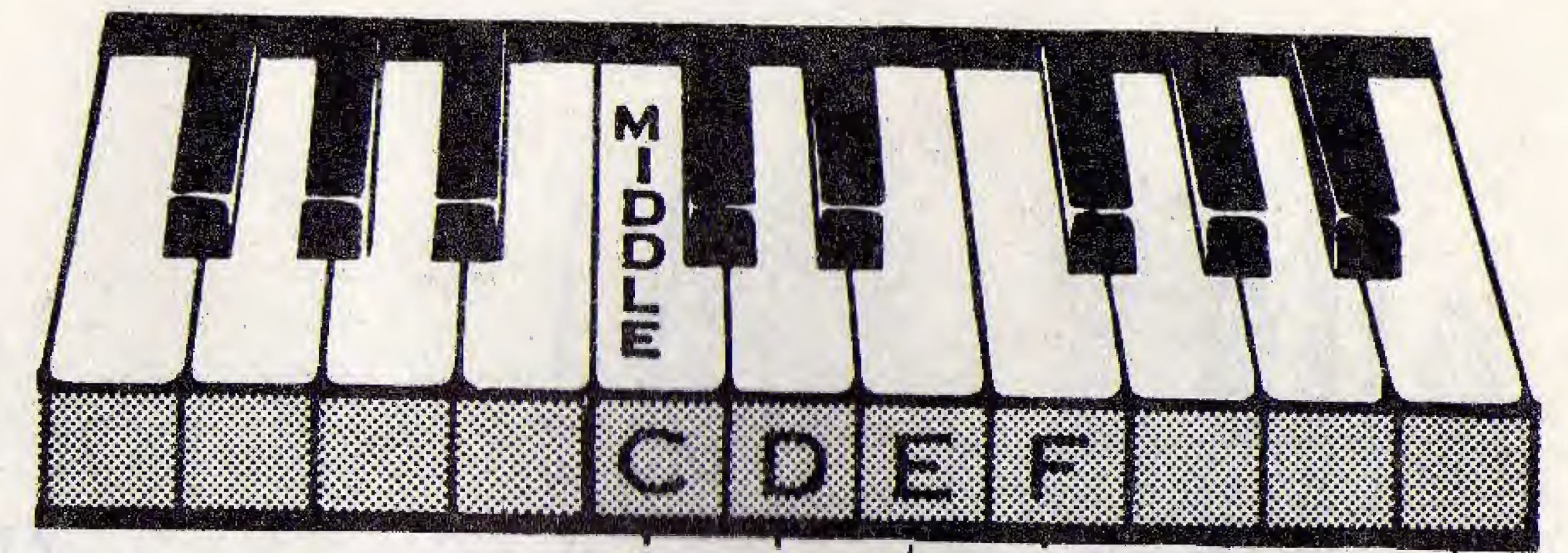
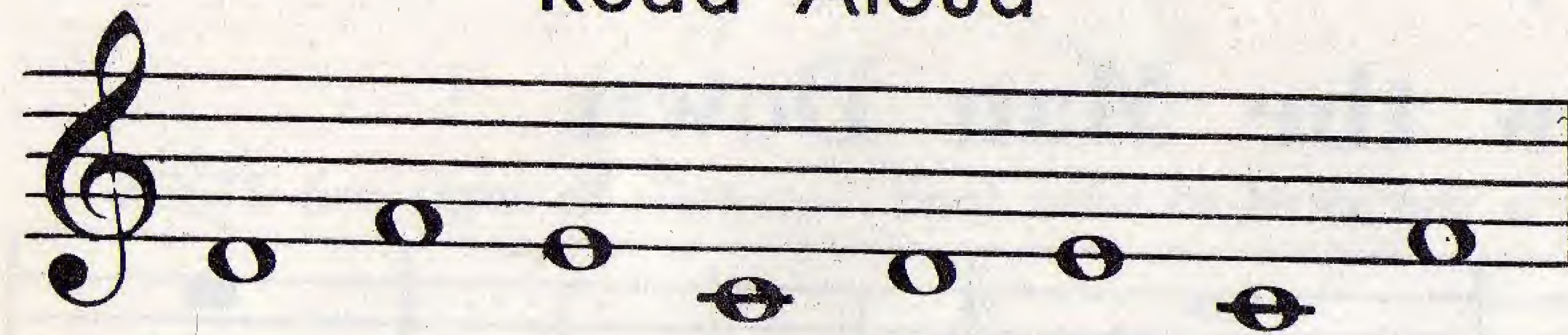
Musical notation for the second system, continuing the melody and accompaniment. The treble staff features a half note G4, a half note A4, and a half note B4. The bass staff continues with a half note G3 and a half note F3. A fermata is placed over the final note of the treble staff.

Musical notation for the third system, concluding the piece. The treble staff features a half note G4, a half note A4, and a half note B4. The bass staff continues with a half note G3 and a half note F3. A fermata is placed over the final note of the treble staff.

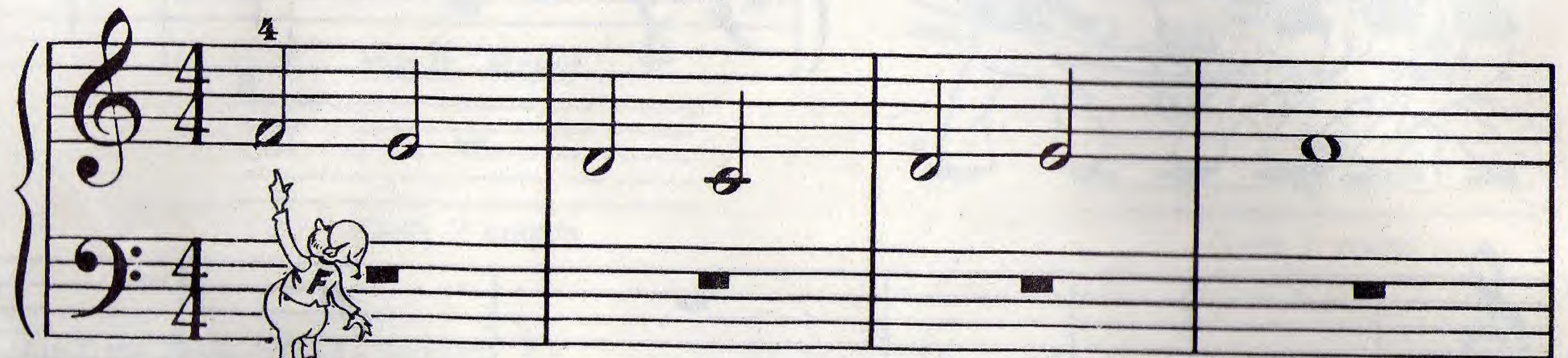
See Accompaniment on opposite page.



# Read Aloud



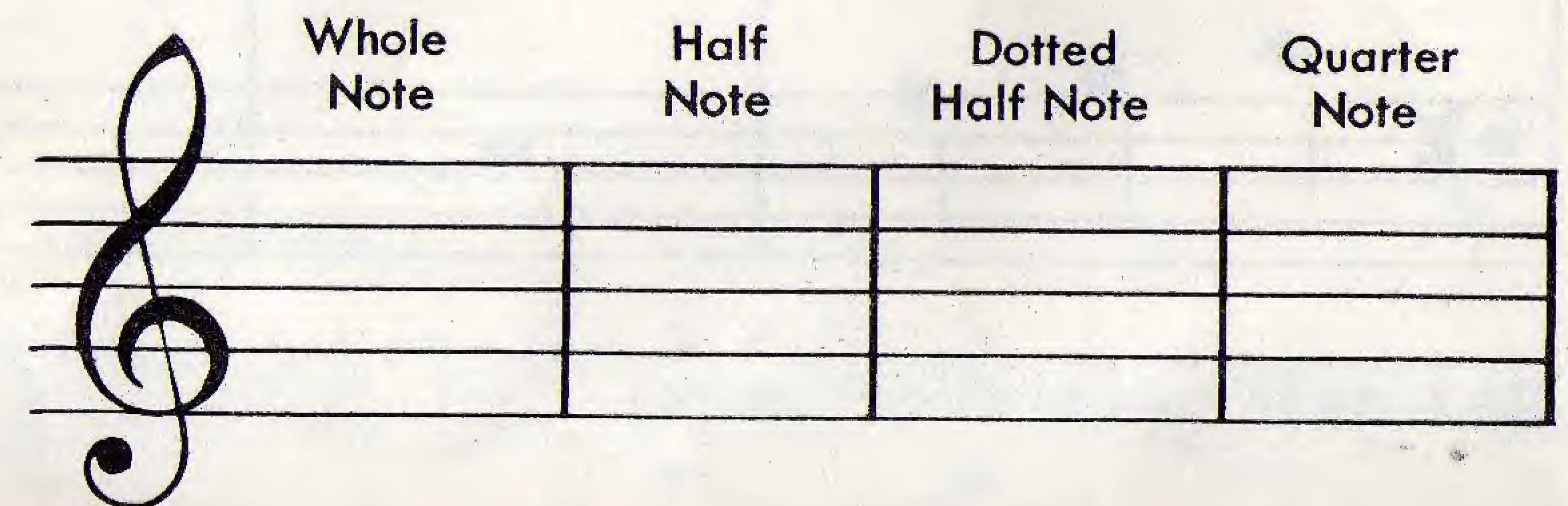
## The Church Organ



### Accompaniment

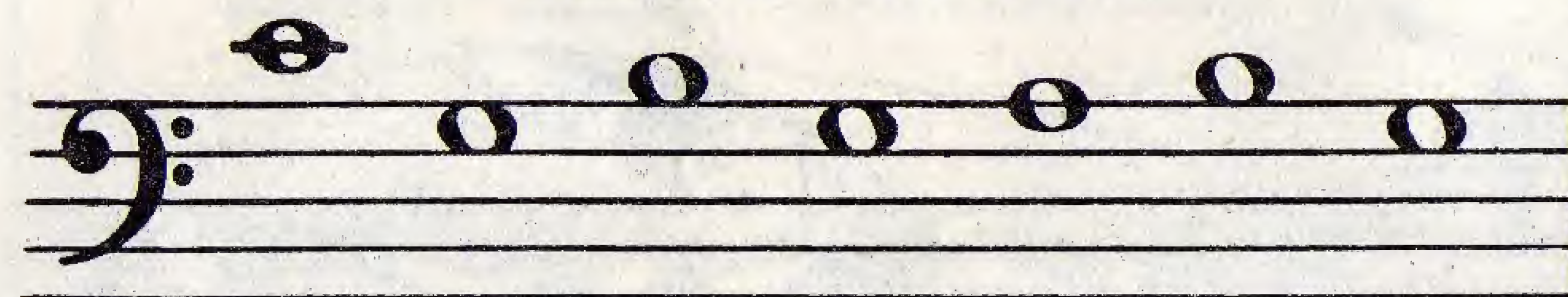


Write the new note (F) below.





Read Aloud



Read Aloud



# Yankee Doodle

Yan - kee Doo - dle came to town a - rid - ing on a po - ny, They

stuck a feath - er in his hat and called him Mac - a - ro - ni.

2 4 3 2



# Carry Me Back to Old Virginny

James A. Bland

3

Car - ry me back to old Vir - gin - ny,

3

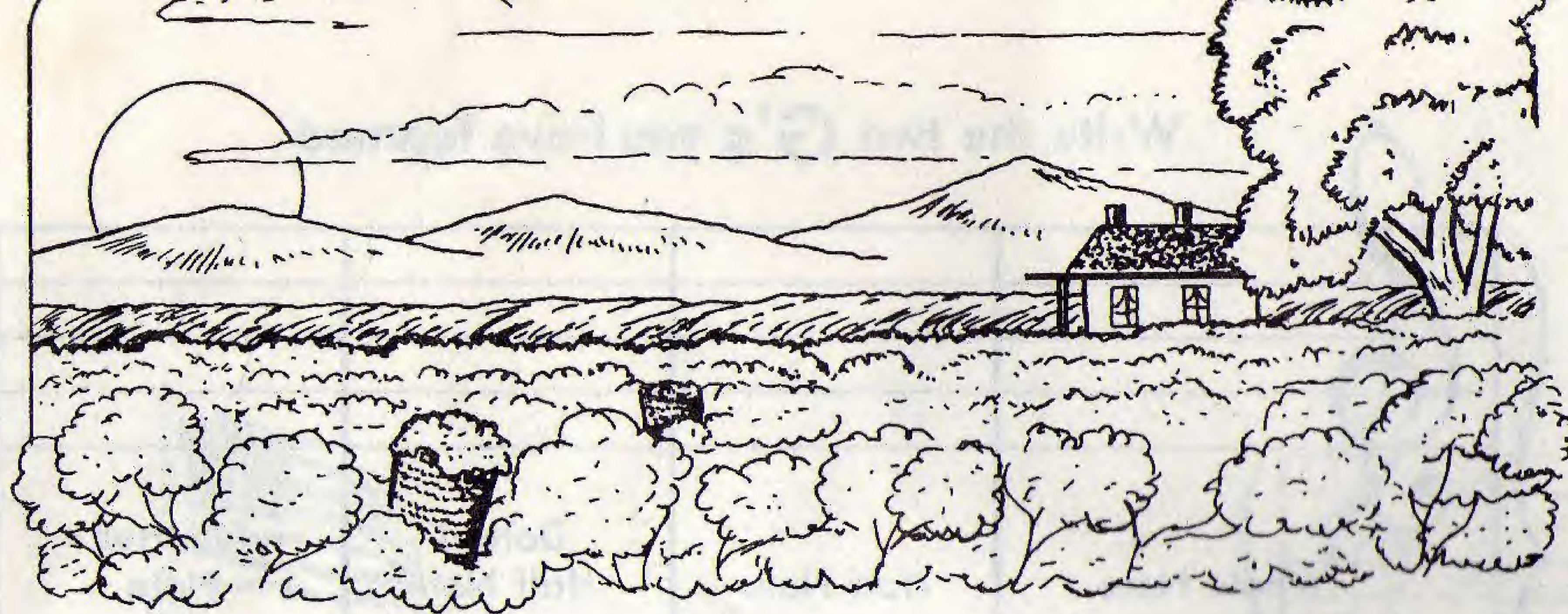


There's where the cot - ton and the corn and 'ta - toes grow, There's where the birds war - ble

sweet in the spring-time, There's where the old dar-key's heart am longed to go.

## Accompaniment





### THE TIE



When two notes are tied together, the second note is not struck but held for its full value.

## The Old Cotton Picker

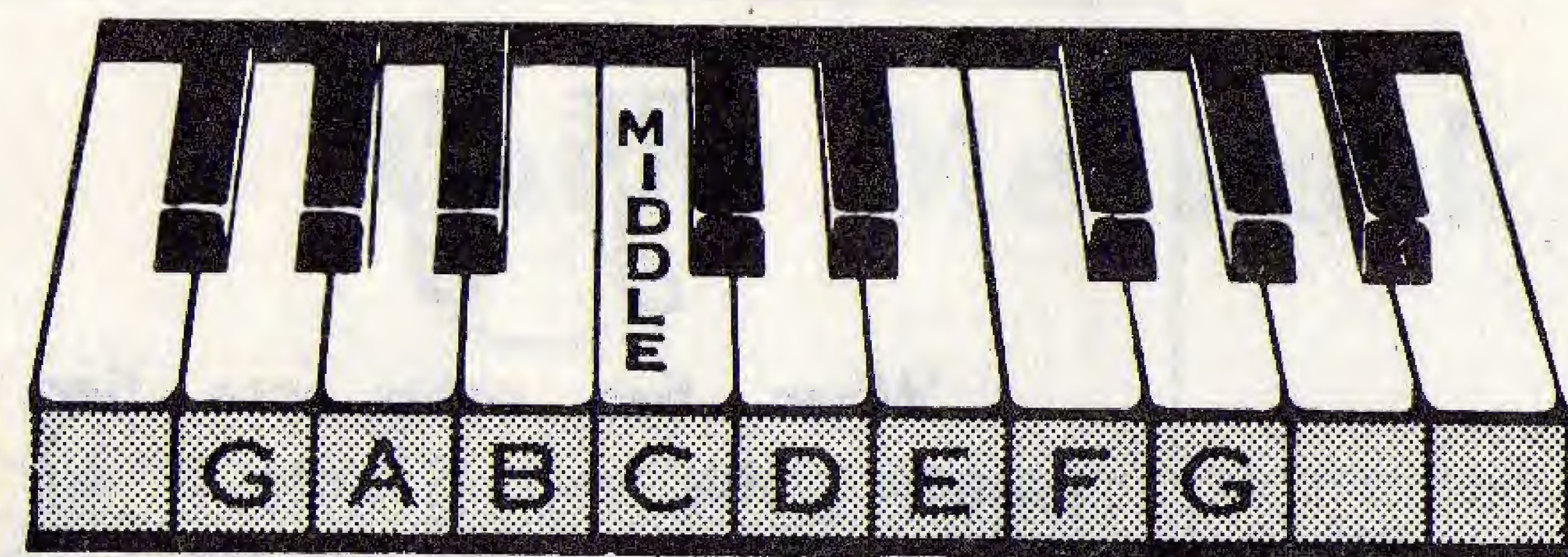
Musical notation for the first system of "The Old Cotton Picker". It features a treble and bass staff in 4/4 time. The melody is in the treble staff, and the bass staff provides accompaniment. The lyrics are: "Pick - in' cot-ton, I've not for - got-ten, The hours I've spent in the sun." The first measure has a 4 below it, and the third measure has a 3 above it. The final measure has a tie symbol above it.

Musical notation for the second system of "The Old Cotton Picker". It continues the melody and accompaniment from the first system. The lyrics are: "Bend - in' o - ver, you're not in clo-ver, The work is no - bod-y's fun." The first measure has a 3 above it, and the final measure has a tie symbol above it.

### Accompaniment

Musical notation for the accompaniment, showing the right hand (R. H.) and left hand (L. H.) parts. The right hand part is in the treble staff, and the left hand part is in the bass staff. The notation includes fingerings and other musical symbols.





New Note

Write the two G's you have learned

Whole Note      Half Note      Dotted Half Note      Quarter Note



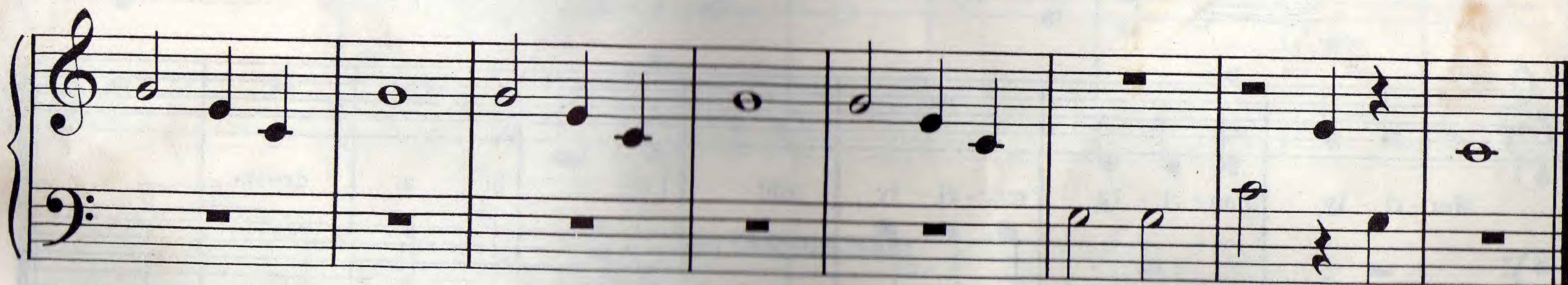
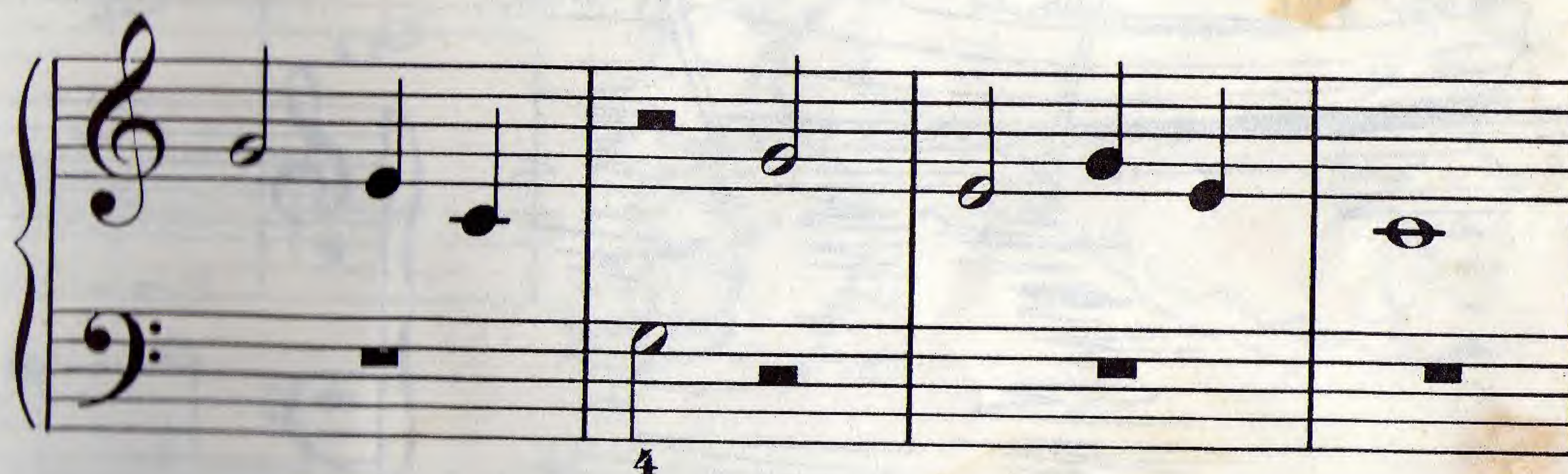
# Theme from "New World" Symphony

Anton Dvorak

## Accompaniment



# Bugles!







# Row, Row

Row, row, row your boat,

Gen - tly down the stream,

Mer - ri - ly, mer - ri - ly, mer - ri - ly oh! Life is but a dream.

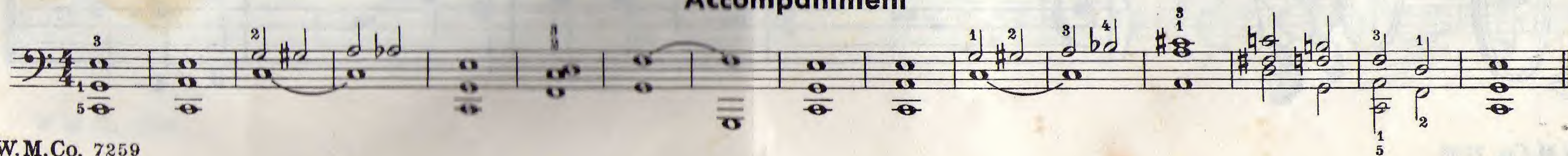


# Nobody Knows the Trouble I've Seen

Spiritual



## Accompaniment





Write the two F's you have learned

MIDDLE

F G A B C D E F G

New Note

5 4 3 2 1

1 2 3 4 5

Whole Note

Half Note

Dotted Half Note

Quarter Note

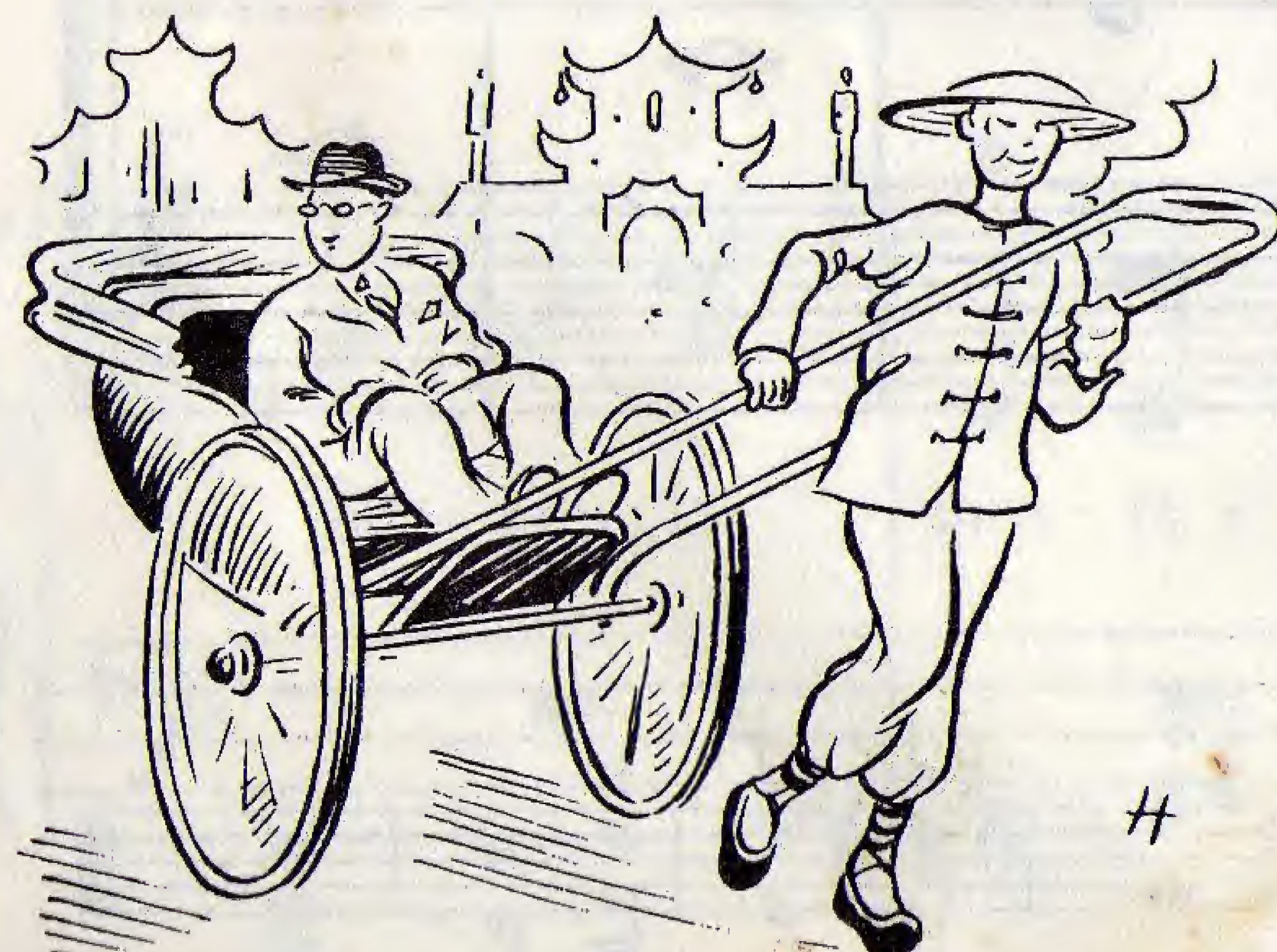
# In a Rickshaw

4

2

3

5



3

5





# The Banjo Picker

Adapted from  
Stephen Foster

First system of musical notation. Treble clef, 4/4 time. Bass clef, 4/4 time. The melody in the treble clef starts with a whole note G4, followed by a half note A4, and then a series of eighth notes. The bass line starts with a whole note G2, followed by a half note A2, and then a series of eighth notes. There are handwritten annotations: a 'p' in the first measure of the bass line and a 'f' in the second measure of the treble line.

Second system of musical notation. Treble clef, 4/4 time. Bass clef, 4/4 time. The melody in the treble clef continues with a whole note G4, followed by a half note A4, and then a series of eighth notes. The bass line continues with a whole note G2, followed by a half note A2, and then a series of eighth notes. There is a handwritten '3' in the first measure of the bass line.

Third system of musical notation. Treble clef, 4/4 time. Bass clef, 4/4 time. The melody in the treble clef continues with a whole note G4, followed by a half note A4, and then a series of eighth notes. The bass line continues with a whole note G2, followed by a half note A2, and then a series of eighth notes.

## Accompaniment

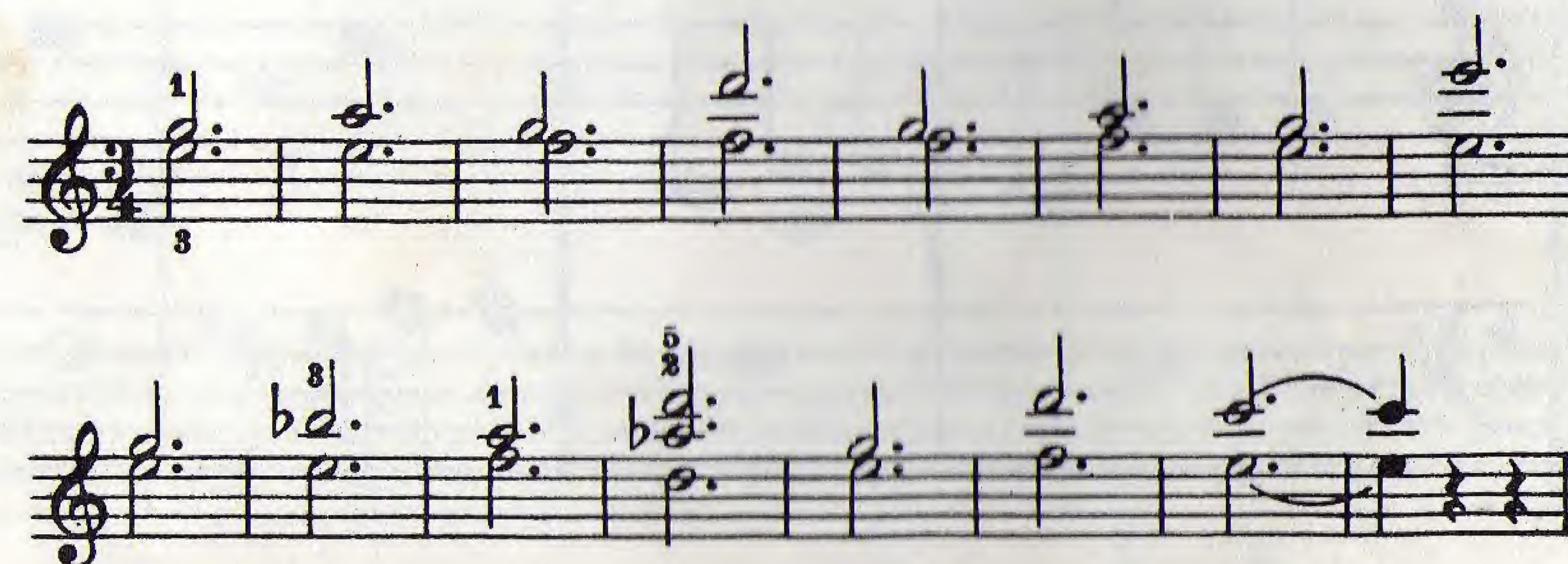
Accompaniment musical notation. Treble clef, 4/4 time. Bass clef, 4/4 time. The melody in the treble clef starts with a whole note G4, followed by a half note A4, and then a series of eighth notes. The bass line starts with a whole note G2, followed by a half note A2, and then a series of eighth notes. There are handwritten annotations: a '4 2' in the first measure of the treble line and a '5 3' in the second measure of the treble line. The accompaniment is divided into two parts, labeled '1.' and '2.'.



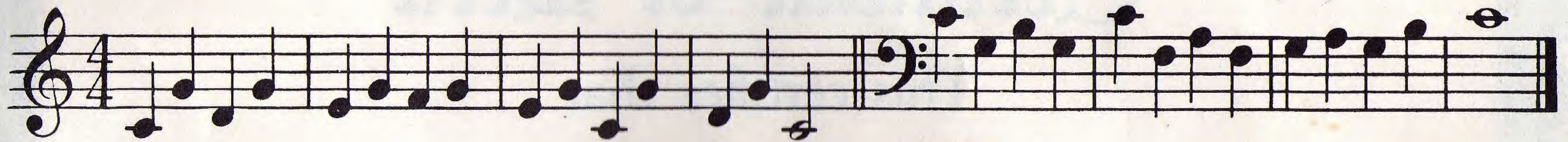
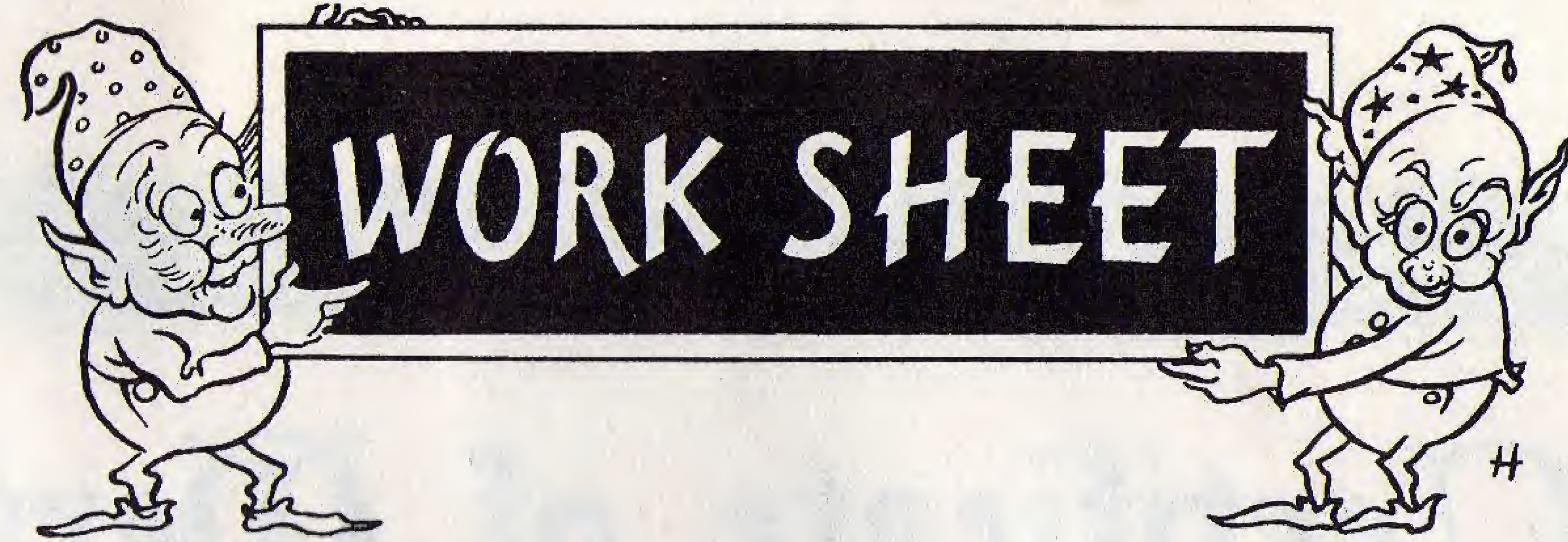
# Princess Waltz



## Accompaniment



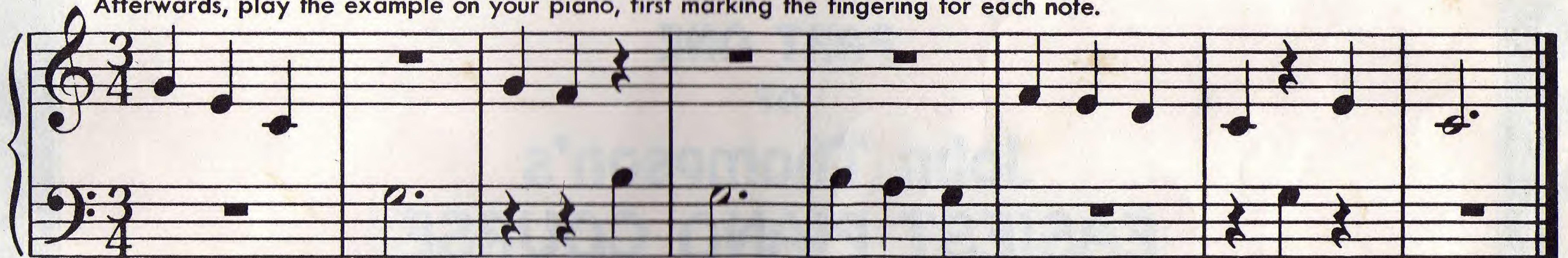




(Write letter names)

Clap the time (one clap to each count) while reciting the letter-names of the notes.

Afterwards, play the example on your piano, first marking the fingering for each note.



Clap the time and recite the notes as above.

Mark the fingering, then play on the piano.

